

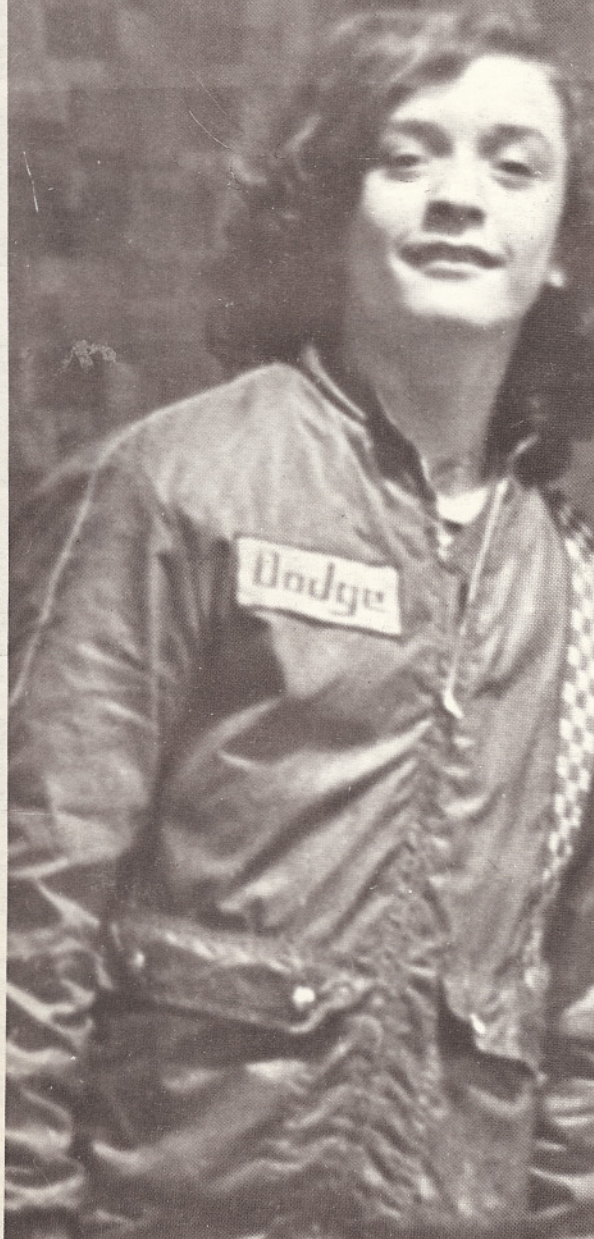
**FIGHTING  
THE MASTERPLANS:**  
Chicago, New York, San Francisco

# KEEP STRONG

A Publication of the Intercommunal Survival Committee  
Vol. 3 No. 2      SEPTEMBER, 1977      50 CENTS

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**Our Young People:  
“Like the Sun  
At Seven  
In the Morning.”**

*Born: 1963  
Died: 1977*



*In This Issue:*

**1**



**2**



**3**



**4**

**IS THERE A MASTERPLAN  
FOR SAN FRANCISCO?**



**5**





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## In This Issue

1. Funeral services were held last month for a beloved young brother from the Uptown community, Chet Branham. A message delivered at the funeral by ISC national coordinator Slim Coleman appears in this issue. See page 26.
2. Black Panther Party Founder and President, Huey P. Newton, recently returned from forced exile to fight false charges against him, received an award from the California State Legislature late last month. See page 32.
3. Textile worker talks about conditions operating a cotton gin and the issue of occupational health. See page 19.
4. San Francisco's masterplan: striving to be the "Wall Street of the West." See page 26.
5. As resistance to Chicago's masterplan grows, KEEP STRONG presents part I of an in-depth analysis. See page 39.



# YOUNG LIFE IS TOO PRECIOUS

*The death of the young brings us all to a new level of understanding. For a few moments or hours, at least, we understand that life is too precious to be allowed to become the object and victim of political games and rhetoric. Then it seems that we forget, or are conditioned to forget, what we have understood. And that is wrong.*

*In Chicago and many other cities this month there will be raging battles between politicians, hard core racists attempting to build their organizations, demagogues of all sizes and shapes and those who have their backs pushed to the wall over the issue of busing. The children will again be the victims. The meager education they get in the schools will be disrupted, and perhaps some will be hurt or killed.*

*We believe in freedom of choice. A person should be able to go wherever and whenever he or she chooses to a school in this country, no matter what color their skin is. But it seems again that no real choices are being offered.*

*During the presidential election we had to choose between peanuts Carter and status quo Ford. Soon we will be asked to choose between the old starvation welfare program and Carter's new starvation welfare program. This fall our children are being made to choose between a poor education and violence. These are not real choices.*

*The Oakland Community School, organized by Huey P. Newton and the Black Panther Party, has provided a concrete, impressive improvement on the educational opportunities open to Black, Latino and poor White children generally. Institutions such as this, which we ourselves struggle and fight to build, provided choices far different from the political rhetoric and oppressive situations that are so often held out to us in this corrupt system.*

*When there are no real choices, our only obligation is to defend ourselves and especially our children in the array of madness that power crazy, self-seeking minds have developed around us. Let that be the watchword for September; defend the children and woe be to any that would harm them, for young life is too precious. And let us continue to build real choices for ourselves and leave the rhetoric to those who have nothing but words in their hearts. □*



# ISC NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS DESTROYED BY ARSON

*Thursday, August 25, at 5:30 a.m., the National Headquarters of the Intercommunal Survival Committee, located at 1056 W. Lawrence Ave. in Chicago's Uptown community, was attacked by arsonists and totally destroyed.*

*Although no one was injured in the early morning torching, supplies for the ISC's many service-oriented community programs as well as machinery and equipment being temporarily stored for its growing popular magazine KEEP STRONG was destroyed.*

*ISC community information coordinator, Helen Shiller, points out that "it was out of this office that we were coordinating our Justice for Huey P. Newton and the Black Panther Party Campaign. In view of the recent return of Huey Newton to this country from forced exile, we are not really surprised by what is merely another attack on a progressive organization working day-to-day in an oppressed community of this country for social change."*

*Although the loss in money as well as time in reconstructing mailing lists, records and research amounts to thousands of dollars, Ms. Shiller was confident that the already quick response and support of the community would insure that these losses could be recouped. "They will have to do a lot more than this to stop us."*

*Until a new ISC office is established, correspondence can be directed to the ISC c/o Keep Strong Publishing Co. 1222 W. Wilson Ave. Chicago, Illinois 60640. □*



# ON THE STREET

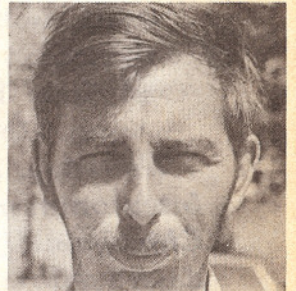
**"WHAT DO YOU THINK OF CARTER'S WELFARE PLAN?"**



**Ann Marie Ramey**  
N. Malden

**"I don't think that it's right, because there isn't enough jobs for these people, and for the ones that have big families, how does Carter plan on them living? There's just not enough jobs. I know by experience. That's the reason I'm not working."**

**Daryl Asay**  
N. Magnolia



**"Not too much. I think it is a war on poor people. There is getting to be less and less jobs around, so people are going to have to go on welfare in order to survive."**



**Mary Ann Dees**  
W. Fry

**"I don't think he should cut everybody off, like mothers with young kids. If he can put kids in nursery schools so the mothers can get out and work, that would be a great idea. If he is going to put these people to work, he should give them some kind of training. Then they can make some money, but don't put them to work and pay them \$2-2.50. Everybody should be making a reasonable amount. You see how high things are these days — food, clothes, etc. He shouldn't just jump up and pull everybody off of welfare."**

**Thomas Sands**  
W. Wilson



**"I think it's terrible because you have people, that if he cuts them off, they can't find a job. There's no jobs to be had."**

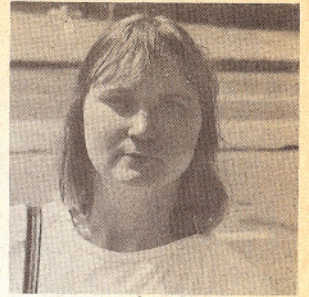


**Dorothy Weinfurter**  
N. Magnolia

**"There are too many poor people who need help, and it looks like he don't really care about the poor people. He is just thinking about himself. I thought when he got in he was going to be the right kind of a guy, and now it looks like he is trying to do dirt to the poor people and give it all to the rich. And that ain't right."**



Barbara Matz  
W. Eastwood



"They send you to your precinct captain. You go through the whole big runaround. They say, 'We don't know nothing about it,' and they send you back to your precinct captain. I went through about three weeks of this just to look for a public service job. I never got anything. I think the plan is stupid. I mean, they give you a runaround if you try to get a public service job. They give you a runaround if you try to get aid. If they are going to have jobs — make it jobs — but don't humiliate people like they are nothing; and that's what they do. They make you feel like you're begging."

Amora Levi  
N. Winthrop



"I don't think it is a good plan because you have mothers with kids that can't work who need the aid, and then you have those that don't really have any skills. So aid is the last resort, and if you don't have the aid, then what will you do about it? If you don't have the skill for the job, then there is nothing left but to starve. Plain and simple — 'work or starve.'"

Judith Adams  
N. Kenmore



"I think that the people who really need it really shouldn't be cut off. That's all."

Diane Moore  
N. Magnolia



"If they were going to give us good jobs then I wouldn't mind working. But it's got to be a good job. It's got to be guaranteed. And once you get it, it's got to be enough where you can make ends meet before they cut you off. You got to be adjusted to it first."

Joyce and Mike Bridges  
W. Montrose



"People in the ghetto have to get welfare because there ain't no jobs."

Kay Fund  
N. Sheridan



"Does he have a welfare plan? I was just being sarcastic because I know his plan is really a non-plan. I think that he is copping out on all the promises that he made. I think that he is just selling poor people down the river. I don't think there are any public service jobs. I happen to work for the city, and I deal with people that are trying to get on public aid all the time who are desperately trying to work also. I am very disappointed with President Carter. I don't know why he turned against the good people who elected him."



# WELFARE RIGHTS

## Caught In a Trap— “Sorry, There’s Nothing We Can Do.”

(Chicago, Ill.) If President Carter’s welfare proposals are put into effect, many people will be forced to accept low-paying jobs which offer no benefits, while the services of the Department of Public Aid also are cut down to just about nothing. The following interview points out the trap people are put into by Public Aid when they try to earn a living.

Carol Herndon went to the welfare office on August 5 to apply for aid herself and for her three children. She had come to Chicago from Tennessee after separating from her husband, Ed. Two weeks later, Ed also came to Chicago, and they went to the welfare office to explain that he was back on the scene and asked if they would change the application to include him. Welfare agreed to do this and told them to come back on August 18 for an interview. During this time Ed found a job making \$3 an hour. As he explained, “I had to work, so Carol kept the appointment. She told them I was working and they

said I made too much to get aid.” At that point, Mr. Herndon had only worked two days, and hadn’t received any pay yet. They still had no money, and Ed explained that “if it wasn’t for Carol’s mother helping us out, we would have been out in the street. The worst part is their attitude. It’s just, ‘Well, I’m sorry, there’s nothing we can do.’ And that’s it. It doesn’t matter if you’re starving to death.”

Carol asked for emergency food stamps and a medical card, even if they couldn’t get any money. She was told that she could get emergency food stamps at 901 Montrose, and that her husband made too much money to get a green card.

“The next day I went to 901 Montrose,” Carol said, “and they said they did not give out emergency food stamps. The lady there was very snotty. She said that to get any kind of food stamps I would have to bring in my husband’s last four pay stubs.” Of course, her husband had not even worked long enough to get paid.

“That was on Thursday,” said Ed. “On Monday I went down to the public aid office and told them I wanted emergency food stamps. They said I would have to take this form out to my boss and have him fill it out and sign it. Then when I brought it back they could figure out how much I would have to pay, which would do a lot of good, because I didn’t even have the money to pay for the food stamps.”

Since that time, Ed and Carol have filed an appeal on the original application and also applied again for



The Herndon family: “The worst part is their attitude. It’s just, ‘Well, I’m sorry, there’s nothing we can do.’ And that’s it. It doesn’t matter if you’re starving to death.”



ADC. They are waiting for their appointment on September 7. Ed has stopped working, because, "At \$3.00 an hour, I'd bring home less than I'd get from welfare, at \$374 a month. They said I make too much to get aid and I work too many hours to get a medical card. What do we do if one of the kids get sick? On aid, we don't have to worry about the medical card, and we'll be sure to get the food stamps." □

## **Welfare Recipients Reject Carter Welfare Reform Plan**

(Chicago, Ill.) On Saturday, August 20, a special meeting of welfare recipients and welfare rights organizations across Chicago was called to explain the details of the Carter welfare reform proposal and to get suggestions for changes and improvements from the recipients themselves and their organizations. In fact, this necessary input from those most affected by the program had been sorely overlooked by the Carter administration. The advisory committee, which had held open hearings in Washington, D.C., had only one welfare recipient member, Ms. Nezzie Willis. Ms. Willis was, in fact, at the Chicago meeting asking for "feedback" on the Carter welfare proposal to take back to Washington.

After a lengthy presentation of the details of Carter's program, recipients and organization leaders reacted sharply. It was pointed out that the single parent family of four would actually receive a cut in their cash grant. In addition, the food stamp program would be eliminated. Senior citizens and the blind would receive a slight increase, but this would be cut away quickly, as without the food stamp program, they will have to again pay taxes for the purchase of food. The single unemployed person would fare the worst with a meager cash grant of \$1,100 a year.

Allegedly, the cuts in cash grants will be made up by "job opportunities" opened up through federal job programs and what Carter projects as an "expanding economy." A single parent family of four with the youngest child over six would require the parent to take a part-time job. For every two dollars earned, one dollar would be taken off the grant. When the youngest child was over 12, the parent would be required to take a full time job again with one dollar coming off their cash grant for every two dollars earned.

Several people at the meeting hurried to point out



**Marion Stamps:** "They are cutting the cash grants down, telling us that we can make up the difference by getting jobs which do not and will not exist. Let them first show us the jobs, end the unemployment, and then talk about changing the welfare system."

the vicious reality behind the Carter proposal. Even if Carter did provide the 1.4 million federal jobs he is projecting, less than 23% of those on welfare would be affected, and the majority of these would receive only low-paying part-time jobs.

In addition, speakers pointed out that official policy of the city of Chicago, formulated by the Mayor's Council on Manpower and Economic Advisers, defined welfare recipients as "unemployable," and recommended that no federal jobs programs be directed to them or to their communities. So that even if the jobs were provided to the city, they would not get from the city to the recipients.

A similar policy is taking strong hold among private employers who feel that it is too expensive to train welfare recipients and other hard-core unemployed, so that even with an expanded economy few jobs would be available from private industry.

The net result was summed up by well-respected community leader, Marion Stamps. "They are cutting the cash grants down, telling us that we can make up the difference by getting jobs which do not and will not exist. Let them first show us the jobs, end the unemployment, and then talk about changing the welfare system."

Finally, it was reported that Carter's proposal has no medical plan attached to it and new federal



national health insurance plans, on which the Carter proposal depends for health care to welfare recipients and their children, may very likely not be passed in Congress.

Moreover, the Carter proposal, it was pointed out, is the result of improvements made after strong protest by national organizations like the Urban League and the NAACP to his original draft, and these improvements may very well be cut away in Congress, leaving even a worse situation.

After a very thorough discussion, which showed that recipients and their organizations had done their homework, the meeting voted unanimously to reject the entire Carter proposal. "We cannot be about the business of suggesting small improvements and by doing so giving support to a proposal that spells disaster for the men, women and children now receiving public aid," said one woman. The meeting agreed that the only alternative proposal which could be acceptable was to establish a guaranteed minimum income at or above the poverty level as defined recently by the Department of Labor at \$9,000 a year for a family of four. This was in strong contrast to the Carter proposal which would give the same single parent family of four a cash grant of \$4,200 a year with the promise, but not the reality, of a job to supplement their income.

After voting down the proposal, a new committee was formed to build a movement of opposition to the Carter proposal and take their case to Washington, D.C. themselves. □

## **UNEMPLOYMENT**

### **"Sorry, We Can't Use You."**

(Chicago, Ill.) Jim Walker, 33, lives with his wife, Terry and two small children in Albany Park on Chicago's north side. Recently, Jim was diagnosed as having psychomotor dysfunction, a form of epilepsy, and was forced to leave his job as a machine operator. Since then Jim has been fighting for unemployment benefits and looking for work.

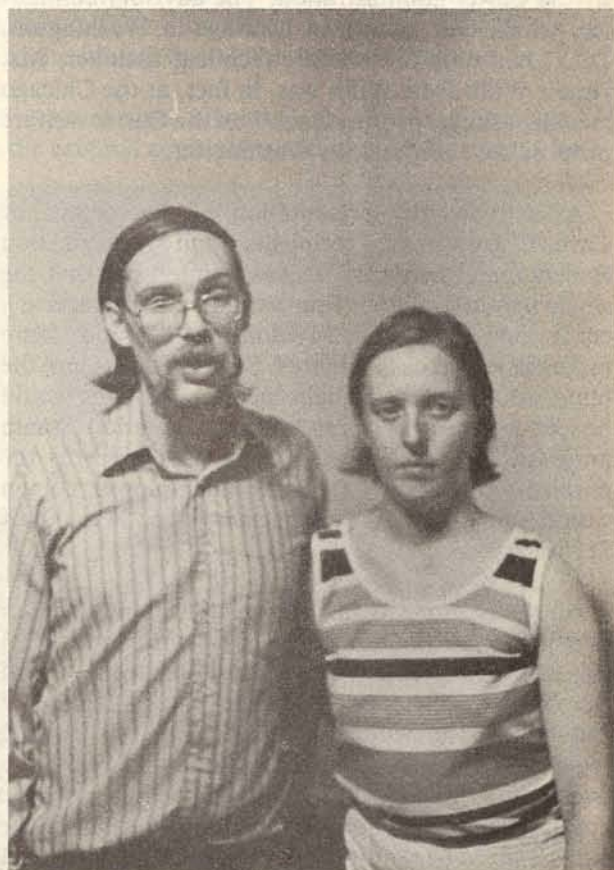
In June the epilepsy attacks became so severe that Jim couldn't make it out of bed to go to work. For more than 20 years he had been suffering from sudden attacks of blackout, dizziness, and loss of memory, but doctor after doctor could not tell him what was wrong. Despite this disability, Jim trained himself to be a machine operator, gunstock maker,

and carpenter. Until June, Jim was working as machine operator and set-up man at Lincoln Manufacturers, 2617 W. Fletcher. The plant specializes in assembly line production of bolts and screws.

The doctor who diagnosed Jim as having epilepsy gave him a note to the company stating that his medical condition was "a reaction to his job as a screw machine operator and set-up man and will not improve if he keeps working on the same job." Jim points out that working conditions at the plant were archaic. Large, overhead belts which made an excessive amount of noise were used to operate the machines. The plant had never been modernized since it was built in the 1920's.

The company made no response to Jim when he turned in the doctor's note, so he quit the job. When he filed for unemployment benefits at the Kedzie Ave. Unemployment office, he was told that he was ineligible for two reasons. First, the company was fighting the claim; and second, since he could not work at what he was trained to do, he was considered to be "unavailable for work." He filed for an appeal. Meanwhile, Unemployment sent him to Social Security.

At Social Security Jim applied for SSI (supplemen-



Terry and Jim Walker are determined to "keep the irons in the fire," and are committed to building a productive way of life which ensures survival with dignity for those who are disabled.



tal security income) benefits but there he was told he was "eligible for work," and therefore, did not qualify. They sent him to welfare.

The family applied for AFDCU (Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Unemployed Fathers.) At first public aid turned down the application, claiming that he was receiving unemployment! But Jim had never received a penny from unemployment. After appealing, the family began receiving \$317 a month plus food stamps. But this is hardly enough to pay \$170 a month for rent, utilities (the phone was cut off) and special medical expenses. Terry, who has a college degree, has also been unable to find work. Employers tell her she's "overqualified."

Jim's efforts at looking for another job have been frustrating. When he explains that he left his previous job due to medical reasons (epilepsy), the employers say, "Sorry, we can't use you," or "Don't call us, we'll call you."

Jim has an appeal hearing on his unemployment claim scheduled for early September. Meanwhile, he and Terry are working with friends in the Albany Park community to open a center which could employ disabled persons who are skilled in arts and crafts. Jim is also looking into the possibility of getting loans from the Small Business Administration to set up his own business—making gunstocks by hand, another one of his skills. He also is planning to seek training and employment through the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and Epilepsy Foundation.

The Walkers are determined to "keep the irons in the fire," and are committed to building a productive way of life which ensures survival with dignity for those who are disabled. They would like to stay in Albany Park, open the arts and crafts center or their own business, but they know the obstacles. They see the city's masterplan moving rapidly along Lawrence Avenue under the name of "revitalization." "They'll drive us out, into small pockets here and there," Jim and Terry Walker say. "They'll drive us out, so we won't be able to do anything, or bring about any changes." □

## **"This Community Is Where We Want To Work."**

(Brooklyn, N.Y.) Unemployment, large scale layoffs and the "economic crisis" are not just situations facing young and unskilled people. Many middle-aged working people have been hard hit by the

current situation. Many people who have worked their whole lives are finding that their jobs are no longer necessary and that they are out of work with no place to go. They are "too old to be retrained" or rehired by a new company and too young to collect social security. Feeling like you could go out and make a decent living, but being told there's no place for you, this is the situation an increasing number of working people in their 40's and 50's are facing.

"I've done everything with a merchant ship but own one or sell one. I repair them, build them, sail them, take them apart, put them in mothballs, anything you want to do," said Mr. St. John, a 47-year-old, experienced seaman, who is a long time resident of Greenpoint.

"For months everyday I waited at the union hall—nothing. I paid the \$30 to reopen the book, and I just sat there waiting for somebody, and then I didn't get called."

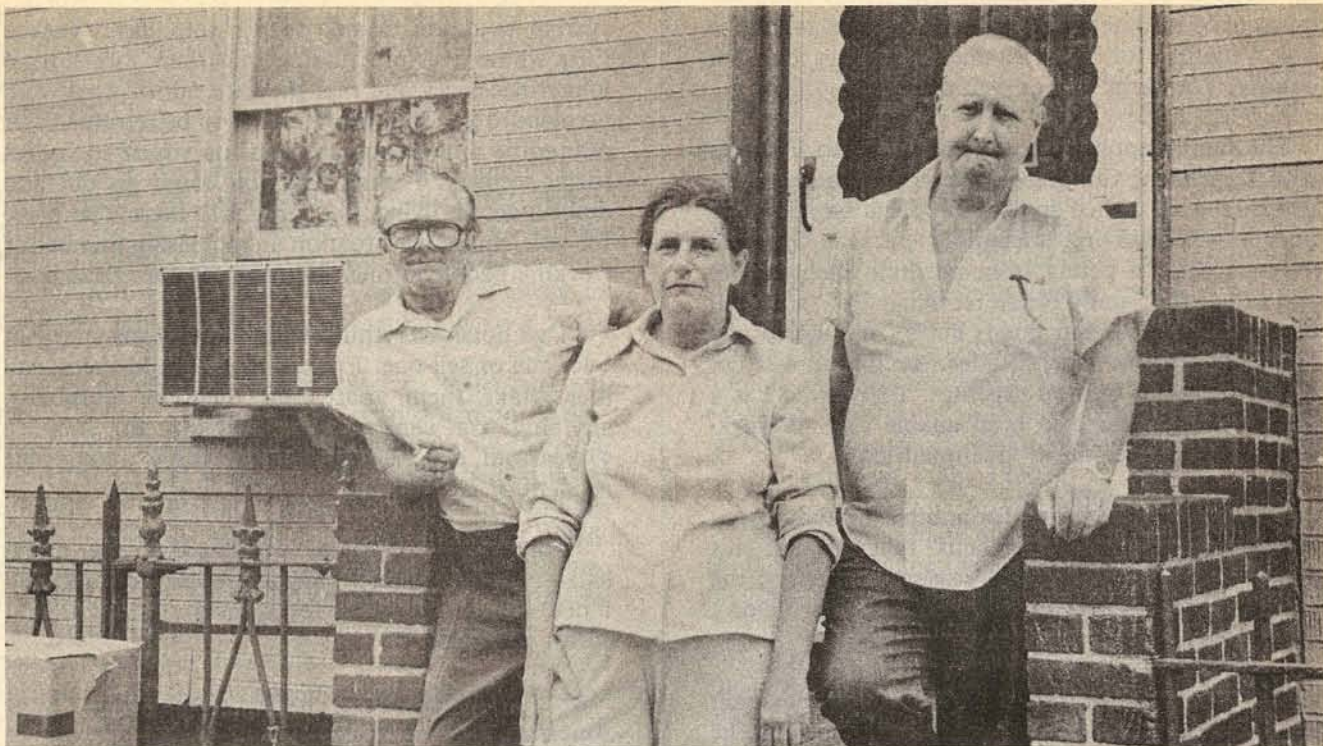
Mr. St. John went on to explain that most American seamen are unemployed today or working other jobs. He said that the main reason was because most shipping companies were registering their ships in other countries like Liberia, Panama and Greece and hiring seamen from other countries because they didn't have to pay as much.

After being a seaman, Mr. St. John had a job as a bank guard at Manufacturers Trust. He got laid off from that job also. He talked about how at the bank many of the guards, rack boys and porters have also lost their jobs.

Mr. St. John has been unemployed for over a year, and his unemployment benefits have run out. The State Employment Service, which is supposed to help people find jobs, didn't help him at all. "They never approached me about work. They never asked me even if I ever went to look for a job. They never asked me if I had food on the table, never asked me nothing except, 'sign here.' The last check I got was half a check. They asked me if I was interested in going to school. That's a hell of a time to ask me. I'm on the back of my shoes, and they're giving me half a check, and they ask me whether I'm interested in going to school," said Mr. St. John.

Mr. Jimmy Byrnes is a 53-year-old construction worker who has been unemployed for the last three years. "The last time I paid my union initiation fees I paid \$105. It must be up to \$175 or \$180 now. I worked carrying steel reinforcing rods. I was in business for 30 years and I cannot get a job. I went all over, I even called the union hall. You got to have a job first, then you get reinstated in the union. You lose all your benefits 'til you get 220 man hours on the job. I was laid off and couldn't get no jobs. There was no jobs to be gotten in construction. How could





Mr. & Mrs. St. John and Mr. Jimmy Byrnes in front of their home. "Once you walk into any concern and put in your application, you can forget about the application—you're never going to get the job. When they find out you're about 50 or over you can forget about it. The boss says, 'Yeah, let him put an application in.' I put it in, and some other guy gets the job. What are you going to do, go down with a gun?"

a person pay \$15 a month, that's \$180 a year. If I ain't getting nothing, how am I going to pay it? It's a political mess. If you don't know the right people, you don't work."

Mr. Byrnes collected unemployment after being laid off. When his unemployment ran out, they told him he was no longer eligible for any benefits.

He went to work for Kenny National Cleaning. It was night work with very little pay, so he tried once again to find work in construction. He applied for many other jobs with no success. Mr. Byrnes, who is also a veteran, is very bitter about these experiences.

"Once you walk into any concern and put in your application, you can forget about the application—you're never going to get the job. When they find out you're about 50 or over you can forget about it. I put in an application where my wife is working. The boss says, 'Yeah, let him put an application in.' I put it in, and some other guy gets the job. What are you going to do, go down with a gun?"

When asked what he thought the solution to this problem of high unemployment was, Mr. St. John said: "What they have to do is guarantee a public program in each community. The only way to solve the problem is to put us back to work. The job market? There is no job market. All over Greenpoint there are jobs that could be done. McCarren Park could be done all over—any one of these parks. Put

guys like Jimmy and me back to work in our communities. This is where we can solve most of our problems, right here. This is the community we got to live in, and this is the community where we want to work." □

## 86% Of N.Y.'s Youth Unemployed

(New York, N.Y.) A recent report released by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has revealed that 86.5 per cent of the Black youth in New York City are without jobs, over 30 per cent higher than the national average of 55 per cent, while the percentage of unemployment for White youth is a staggering 73.9 per cent.

These figures, for the month of July, were hidden in what BLS calls the "employment-population ratio" — which is the number of persons who are not in jails, hospitals or the military, compared to the number of jobs. For adults, using the "employment population ratio," unemployment is 25 per cent. Last year it was 33 per cent — the same level as during the Depression.

Going by the usual monthly "unemployment index" issued by the BLS, which is based on a



"sample" survey which interviewed only those who can prove they actually looked for work, the jobless rate shrinks drastically to between seven and eight per cent for adult males, a total misrepresentation of the unemployment situation.

A vivid example of the unemployment problem facing young people in New York is that 12,000 youth from throughout the city turned out to apply for 2,000 federally financed jobs designed to clean up debris in the wake of the recent 25-hour blackout. The jobs will only last 33 days.

In Brooklyn, 2,000 people waiting to apply outside the Flatbush Avenue Manpower office angrily tore down the metal gates in front of the building and tried to force their way in after the regional director announced that the applications were at another office.

Many of the Black and Latino youth had been waiting in line outside the Flatbush Avenue office since 4:00 a.m., and some had been there since 11:00 p.m. the night before.

When Deputy Mayor Lucille Rose attempted to give weak excuses for the foul-up, by shouting through a bullhorn from a second story window, the crowd threw rocks and garbage up at her.

In the Bronx, a similar situation took place when 3,000 jobseekers ripped apart the gates outside the regional manpower center after being asked to leave and apply at other offices. □

*Reprinted from The Black Panther*

## TENANTS' RIGHTS

### Who Owns The Death Trap At 1031 N. Richmond?

(Chicago, Ill.) At 1031 N. Richmond Avenue, just south of Humboldt Park, the front door hangs open on one hinge. The front steps sag under a visitor's weight. The stairs to the second floor wind around between cracked paint, falling plaster, and dangling wires. Don't turn on the light. Don't lean on the rail. The landlord said the apartment is for rent. Herman Otto is the landlord.

Herman Otto, also known as Herbert Ott, claimed he owned 1031 N. Richmond until July 17. Then he

changed his story. He didn't know who owned it. He wasn't responsible for killing Leroy Ward. The people who lived next door and up the block think differently. Leroy's family thinks differently. The building at 1031 N. Richmond killed Leroy Ward and Otto ran the building.

Leroy Ward died on July 17. He was electrocuted when his pair of pliers touched a live wire dangling behind a second floor sink. He died instantly. He was not yet sixty years old. He had moved into the building only six months before. A year ago he was driving trucks, something he had done for over 30 years.

In January, with no job and no savings, the Wards met Herman Otto. He said he had a place where they could live for free. In return there was some repair work to do and the rents to collect. The family moved into 1031 N. Richmond Ave. just a few days later.

Otto rents to anyone. His policy is to take any money he can get. He pays utility bills after service is shut off. He owns at least three buildings. Each building is a death trap. He knows it when he rents them. Three days after Mr. Ward was killed, he tried to rent the same apartment to a Black woman with three kids. The pair of melted pliers were still hanging under the sink. Dried blood stained the



Leroy Ward died on July 17 when his pair of pliers touched a live wire dangling behind this sink at 1031 N. Richmond, a death trap owned by Herbert Otto.



floor. Otto wanted a security deposit and one month's rent.

After the funeral in Indiana, Rose Ward went back to 1031 N. Richmond. The doors had been kicked in. All her valuables were gone. She boxed up what was left. Otto was there, and before she left, he caught her behind the building, demanding an uncollected rent.

The death trap at 1031 N. Richmond is rented again. Herman Otto says he owns it again. The city hasn't been out since Leroy died. The new tenants know what happened, but they say their last home was even worse and there's no place to go.

Now Rose Ward is in Uptown. She moved into her son's apartment at 4728 N. Kenmore, another building owned by Otto. But since Mr. Ward was killed, the building on Kenmore has changed. The Wards and other tenants refuse to pay the rent to the owner. The building needs repairs more than Otto needs money. A tenants' account has been set up. Repairs on the basement apartment have begun and the tenants have contacted an electrician to come out to estimate the cost of rewiring. The building at 4728 N. Kenmore is still owned by Herman Otto, but the tenants control it right now. They feel their struggle for decent housing is the same struggle that has already cost Leroy Ward and many others their lives.□

## **ON THE JOB**

### ***Chicle Plant Officers Charged With Negligent Homicide***

(Queens, N.Y.) On November 21, 1976 an explosion and fire at the American Chicle Plant, 30-30 Thompson Ave., Long Island City, killed six workers and injured dozens more. In a rare development, the Warner Lambert Company and four of its officers have been charged with reckless manslaughter and criminally negligent homicide in connection with the blast. Warner Lambert is the parent firm of American Chicle, the chewing gum manufacturer.

The indictments, handed down in mid-August and announced by Queens District Attorney John J. Santucci, came after a lengthy investigation which

found that the company had allowed for a dangerous build-up of flammable powder used in making the chewing gum produced at the Long Island City plant. The company had ignored several warnings from its own safety and insurance experts in allowing the explosive materials to build up.

The four company executives, charged with manslaughter and homicide, were released on mere \$2,000 and \$2,500 bails. A worker at the American Chicle plant commented, "Imagine what the bail would have been if one of the guys here, disgusted with the conditions, had shot one of the bosses. It wouldn't have taken them nine minutes to lock him up and throw the key away."□

## **LEGAL RIGHTS**

### ***"Disorderly Conduct": The Instant Cover-up***

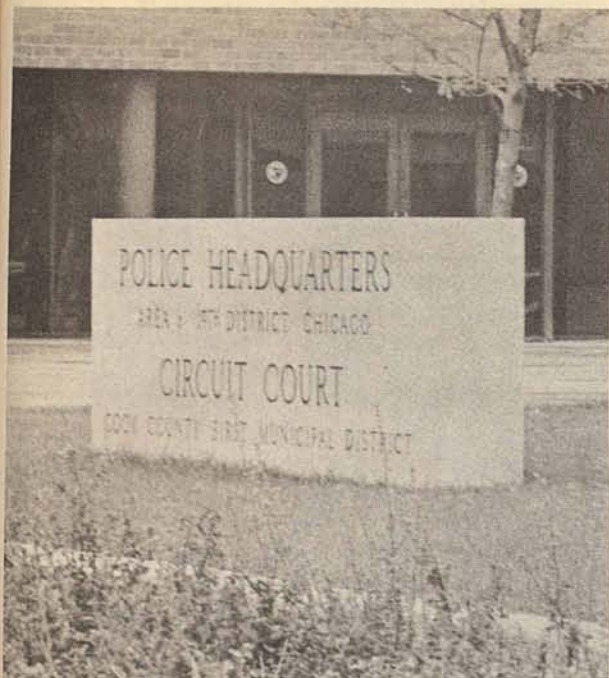
(Chicago, Ill.) "Article 26. DISORDERLY CONDUCT. §26-1 Elements of the offense. (a) A person commits disorderly conduct when he 1. Does any act in such an unreasonable manner as to alarm or disturb another and to provoke a breach of the peace."

Disorderly conduct is the most common arrest charge in Chicago. At Branch 29 of the Circuit Court, located at Belmont and Western Avenues, it is a routine day when 25 of 60 cases heard are for that charge. Most of the time, the defendant has spent the night in jail. And it is a common feeling for those arrested that the police picked them up "for nothing."

Mike Caldwell, age 17, was charged with disorderly conduct early in the summer. As Mike reported it, two uniformed police officers ordered him out of the North Kenmore area near Argyle, telling him "to get the hell out of the neighborhood and back to where he belonged." When Mike started out on his bike, the police pulled him over and arrested him. They said he had moved too slowly. The charge was disorderly conduct. On August 1, 1977, the case was thrown out of court. The officers did not bother to appear to explain the arrest.

For Mary Ann and Joe Stout, the arrest stemmed from a family argument which was interrupted by police officers cruising by. When the Stouts refused





At Branch 29 of the Circuit Court, located at Belmont and Western Avenues, it is a routine day when 25 of 60 cases heard are for disorderly conduct charges.

the offer of police interference, the police became angry. Within minutes, the Stouts had been tripped to the ground and then thrown into separate squad cars. They were arrested and charged with disorderly. The cases are still pending.

A few weeks ago, firemen at the Wilson-Racine station were seen threatening two young Black women from the community. After the incident, their mother went to the station to complain about the firemen's actions. She too was threatened at the station. When Richard Cohen tried to intervene in the argument one of the firemen started kicking him to get him out of the station. When Cohen defended himself, police were called and an arrest was made. Again the charge was disorderly conduct. He appeared at Branch 29 two weeks later. The charge was thrown out. The complainant never appeared.

The police can use and do use the disorderly law anytime they want to arrest someone without cause. The result is at least four hours at the station, if not a night in jail. In 90% of the cases, the police officer does not show up for court. It is standard procedure.

The Illinois statute on disorderly conduct is considered by several area attorneys to be too vague and too broad to be constitutional. They say police can interpret the law to mean anything they want. The remedy they suggest to this police abuse is simple: either repeal the law entirely or conduct a full scale investigation into police officers who make arrests on disorderly charges and then fail to appear in court. Many of the persons who have been

victimized by this type of harrassment believe such an investigation would also bring out a large number of police brutality incidents. The disorderly charge, they say, is the instant coverup for questionable police tactics.

According to one attorney practicing in Uptown, "Disorderly has become the catch all for the police. On the surface, everyone says it's legal—the police, the courts, the jailkeeper who locks you up for the night. But if you look at it, what it gives the police is the power to control the actions of people in the neighborhood. Sooner or later, just walking down the street or talking to your neighbor will become unreasonable or disorderly. People have to stop giving anyone that power over their lives."□

## **POLICE WATCH**

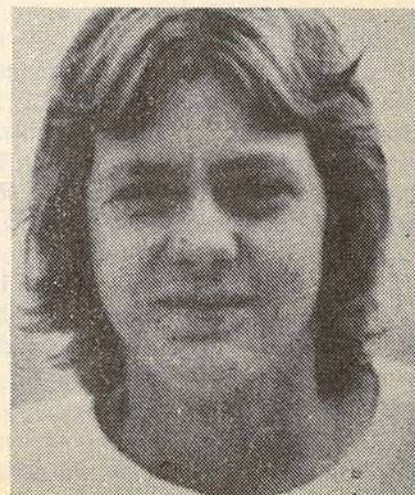
### ***Excessive Police Force Raises Outcry***

(Chicago, Ill.) As the summer months have brought forth example after example of excessive police force, brutality and in far too many cases, police murder, outcries from community organizations and individuals have become loud and clear.

In July, a Chicago-based police watchdog organization, Citizens Alert, sent a petition to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission. To date, the only response has been a promise to investigate the police murder of two Latino youths in Humboldt Park in early June.

No mention has been made of the 18 year old John

John Neumann was one of many Chicago police murders this summer.





Neumann who was shot twice in the back as he ran handcuffed and unarmed or 15-year-old Demetrius Thomas who was shot without warning as he climbed out of the rear window of the apartment in which he and his family lived. Both youths died as a result of these police bullets.

At issue is a vague general order issued July 31, 1974 to all Chicago police instructing the use of "such force as is necessary to prevent arrest from being defeated by resistance or escape." Even FBI guidelines, Citizens Alert points out, only allow use of firearms when the officer's life, or someone else's, is immediately endangered.

Having brought the proposed change to Police Board meetings for the last three or four months, Citizens Alert finally succeeded in soliciting an agreement by the board that they would review the department's guidelines. This they say doesn't mean very much unless the board decides to take some kind of action, which they have refused to commit themselves to do. □

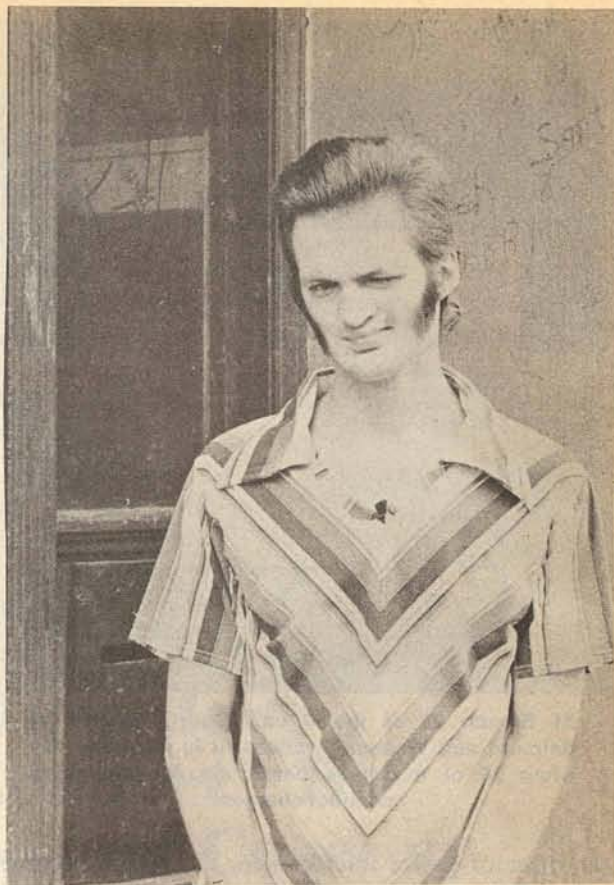
## **"They Took Me To The Lake And Pushed Me In."**

(Chicago, Ill.) "I had just told Dave and Darlene that I was heading home. On the way up the stairs somebody grabbed me from behind and shoved me into the wall. They told me I was under arrest. I told them I didn't do nothing. The paddy wagon pulled up and they put me in backwards...handcuffed. Then we headed down Wilson Avenue, but we didn't turn off. They took me down to the lake and pushed me in and fished me out. I can't swim too well, handcuffed behind my back. I never did see their faces."

Bobby Simpson has been legally blind since birth. He can see maybe three feet in front of him and it is always clouded vision. On July 21, 1977, Bobby was arrested by 23rd district police called to a burglary at a Wilson Avenue Liquor store. The burglar had broken a window and removed several bottles of liquor (the most expensive brands).

Police say they followed the burglar into the middle of a party happening at a house behind the store. Within 20 minutes, they had arrested Bobby and his friend Dave Patten. Both had been at the party for two hours straight.

Three weeks later all burglary charges were



Police arrested Bobby Simpson, took him to the lake and threw him in.

dropped. The state's only witness had testified that Bobby and Dave definitely were not the men he saw at the store. Half a dozen people at the party were ready to testify that they were with either Bobby or Dave when the robbery occurred. There was never any case from the beginning.

"I told them I didn't do nothing. I told them I couldn't have done it. But they charged me anyway. I think I really got arrested that night because I wouldn't say nothing, I wouldn't tell them nothing. Even after all this, I'd still do the same thing." □

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

### **The Crime Of Losing Your Parents**

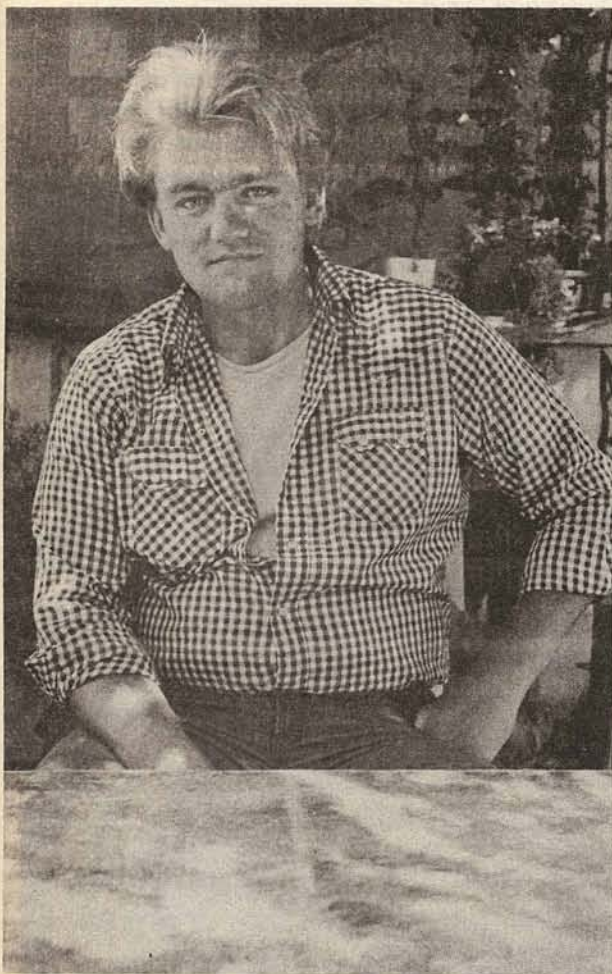
(Elmira, N.Y.) The state of New York and the Elmira State Reformatory are defendants in a lawsuit which



seeks to establish the rights of children to due process of the law. The suit, filed at the end of 1974, has been given no press coverage to date, in spite of its unprecedented nature, partially because the plaintiff believed that the established media would distort the background of the case.

Alcharles (Chuck) Johnston was orphaned by his father's death in Korea in 1953. As a ward of the state, he was placed first in St. Joseph's Infant Home in Troy, New York, until he was 9 years old. He was then transferred by state authorities to Vanderhagden Hall, a state-run school for boys in Troy, New York.

In spite of the fact that the state regularly received payments from his father's estate, Johnston was released from Vanderhagden Hall at the age of 15½ without money, a home or a job, placed on probation and told to take care of himself. He wandered the streets of Troy for two days. Having no place to sleep, he climbed a fire escape back to his old room at Vanderhagden Hall and went to bed. Finding him in his bed, authorities had him arrested. He was held in the Elmira Reception Center for the next five months. At the end of that period he was



Chuck Johnston: "The state, which was being paid out of my father's money left to take care of me, never had any regard for my life."

released and then immediately reincarcerated, serving all but 18 days of a four year sentence for simple trespass.

Johnston was released in July, 1974 by order of the Lt. Governor after sympathetic employees of the prison brought it to his attention.

The suit charges that the State of New York "breached their duty to their ward and, in addition, denied him his civil and constitutional rights." Specifically, Johnston charged that he was tried, convicted and sentenced without due process of law. He was denied an attorney. He was denied his right to appeal the judge's findings. He was subject to cruel and unusual punishment since he served 4½ years in prison for a crime (trespass) which only carries a one year maximum sentence for adults.

In a recent interview, Chuck Johnston outlined the viciousness of the efforts to cover this mistake while he was in prison and silence him since his release. "This is an important case. It affects the well being and future of thousands of young people held in state institutions in New York. The state, which was being paid out of my father's money left to take care of me, never had any regard for my life. I never did anything wrong, never saw the inside of a courtroom. After the first five months they brought me into the warden's office and said they would let me go. They realized locking me up was a mistake, but they had to cover themselves. I spent the next 4 years locked up while they were covering themselves. I did 2½ years in the hole because I wouldn't work in their programs.

"My weight dropped from 230 pounds to 160 pounds. Most of the time I was shackled at my wrists and ankles. The guards took turns coming into my cell to punch me out when my hands were shackled. When I was with the other prisoners the guards did whatever they could to provoke the Black prisoners against me. A muslim brother named Rahid saw what was happening and made sure nothing happened to me. He saved my life on 2 or 3 different occasions.

"A lot of people know about Attica, but not why it happened. The same things were going down in the whole New York prison system. You don't read about the cruelty designed to break the brothers dignity and self-respect in the New York Times. The brothers at Attica knew they were going to die, but chose to die like men rather than live like animals."

The class action suit, seeking \$400,000 in damages, is one in a series of suits amounting to over a million dollars against the State of New York, which Alcharles Johnston has filed on his own behalf and on behalf of "every child who commits the crime of losing his parents." □



# EDUCATION

## A Model Community College

(Chicago, Ill.) ISC national coordinator, Slim Coleman, announced this month the opening of the Uptown campus of the Daniel Hale Williams University, located in this city's Uptown community. The campus is beginning the fall term with slightly over 100 registered students and offers concentrations in electronics, computer technology, graphic arts and printing, accounting, business administration, secretarial science, nursing, pre-law, urban science and human services.

According to Coleman, who is serving as the Uptown campus coordinator, Daniel Hale Williams University offered unique opportunities based on a philosophy particularly suited to the poor and oppressed communities. "The students already enrolled at the Uptown campus have life and work experience that puts them far out front of students at traditional colleges, while at the same time, they may

lack the credentials and some of the formal educational background of middle-class students. They cannot get into most four year colleges, including the University of Illinois, Circle Campus, because of the formal entrance requirements, and would have difficulty staying in anyway because the necessities of life in the oppressed community make the traditional college schedule unrealistic. At the same time, the city community colleges, which only offer a two year degree, do not have the curriculum or staff which can take advantage of the rich experience of survival and struggle our students possess."

"Daniel Hale Williams," Coleman continued, "offered us a workable academic structure, an educational philosophy aimed at competence, not routine, and an intensely serious approach to developing relevant job skills and actually placing students in jobs that have some future. The opportunity to establish a campus in our community was one we could not afford to pass up."

The three-year-old university, headed by Dr. Charles Hurst, has campuses at Zenith plants for Zenith workers; in the Continental Bank for employees; and in many sites in the oppressed communities around Chicago, while its main campus is at 5247 W. Madison. "The function of the college today," said Coleman, "must be to develop the advanced job skills and qualifications necessary for



Registering for the model community college: "The educational institutions that exist in the community offer little hope of jobs at the other end, so we will have to struggle to build our own institutions that will."



steady employment. The government has classified the people of many of our communities as 'unemployable' because we do not have these certified skills and qualifications. Private industry is less and less willing to invest the money that it takes to train us. Therefore, we are left without hope."

"The second function of a true community college," Coleman continued, "must be to involve the entire community in the fight for employment opportunity and full employment. The campus is integrated deeply into the community through its relationship to the other community survival programs, and the success of the college in Uptown must be a total community effort. The educational institutions that exist in the community offer little hope of jobs at the other end so we will have to struggle to build our own institutions that will. I believe we have made a good start."

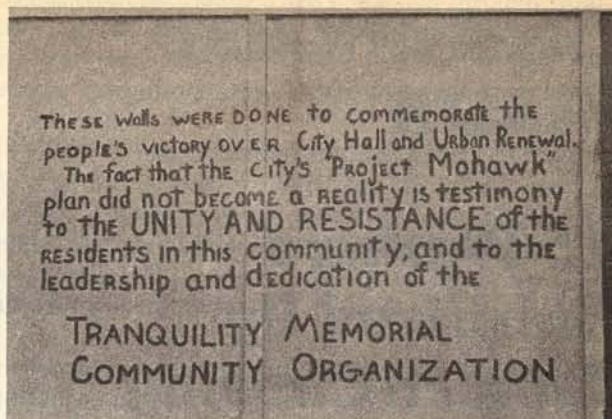
While emphasizing the development of job skills and job placement, the Uptown campus of DHWU is not simply a trade school, but a university offering a four year B.A. or B.S. degree and a broad educational experience. "Here again," Coleman stressed, "the educational experience must fit the needs of our community for survival knowledge. We will study the law relevant to life in the city, the city's political system and the history of the struggle of different oppressed peoples for survival, freedom and dignity."□

## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

### Unity & Resistance Marks 2nd Annual Tranquility Survival Day

(Chicago, Ill.) Saturday, August 27, marked the highly successful Tranquility Memorial Community Organization's 2nd Annual Survival Day. The fiesta-styled affair attracted neighborhood residents to good food, music, African dancers and speakers, while a history of both unity and struggle was evident throughout the day.

A newly-painted mural on North Avenue, next to the Tranquility Community Center at 935 North Ave., reflected the community's long struggle to keep their area from being demolished by urban renewal.



A newly-painted mural on North Avenue, next to the Tranquility Community Center, reflects the community's long struggle to keep their area from being demolished by urban renewal.

Tables and booths indicated the six strong community survival programs run from the center: the Tranquility Welfare Rights Organization, the Chicago Housing Tenants Organization, the Omega Food Co-operative, the Tranquility Housing Coalition, the People's Community School and the Flannery Senior Health Care Center.

The well-respected community organization, headed by Marion Stamps, has successfully negotiated with the city and federal government for rehabilitation funds under the new mini-zone concept, where a participating coalition of small resident landlords, tenants and community organizations, combine to develop a plan to rehabilitate the neighborhood and the buildings. Ms. Stamps pointed out that they were still fighting city hall red tape for the actual release of the money, and indicated that only through continued community struggle could the mini-zone rehab be possible.

The happy day also reflected the city-wide unity which the workers at Tranquility have helped greatly to bring about as representatives from Westtown, Uptown and Lawndale community organizations all came to pay their respect and urge continued unity and resistance.□



# OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

## 15 Workers Sterilized By Cancer-Causing Chemical

(Lathrop, Calif.) In the wake of the shocking discovery that 15 workers at the Oxidental Chemical Company plant here are unable to bear children as a result of prolonged physical contact with a chemical compound called DBCP, confirmed reports indicate that laboratory tests conducted on this material over 10 years ago confirmed it caused sterility through deterioration of the sex organs.

More recent public information available to Oxidental officials but seemingly ignored, has also identified DBCP as a "carcinogen," that is, a substance that causes cancer years after contact which cannot be treated until after it strikes.

Sources close to the families of the men involved say that several are planning to file lawsuits against Oxidental on the grounds of criminal negligence, charging the company knowingly placed workers in contact with a chemical that would sexually maim them and eventually cause their death.

Over a dozen workers at the Dow Chemical plant in Magnolia, Arkansas, have also been diagnosed as being sterile because of contact with DBCP.

The investigation here in Lathrop began in late July, when a number of workers in the plant's Ag-Chem division complained that they weren't having children.

Oxidental Chemical Co., owned by Oxidental Petroleum in Houston, Texas, purchases DBCP from Shell Oil and Dow Chemical. The chemical is used in the production of pesticides. The plant, which employs almost 400 people, produces over 500 different chemicals for agricultural and industrial use.

Company officials, forced by the state to close the Ag-Chem section in early August, explained, "It has to be safe for the workers. You only have one life to live." The closing coincided with a temporary federal ban on the sale of the chemical.

But, discussions with workers in the plant reveal



Workers at the Oxidental Chemical Company plant reveal that while the company has a set of safety procedures, they are hardly enforced and that little or false information is given them regarding the dangerous effects of the thousands of chemicals they handle.



much less concern for the health and safety of the workforce. Employees say that while the company does have a set of safety procedures, they are hardly enforced and most people are not aware of them. Most severe is the fact that little or false information is given them regarding the dangerous effects of the thousands of chemicals they handle.

The crux of the problem was outlined by Mike Schneider, deputy chief of the state's Division of Industrial Safety, in a recent interview. "We are doing what we can. There are over 300,000 chemicals formulated (produced) in this country every year. The government only regulates the production of 1,000 of these. The other 299,000, we don't know about. DBCP was one of the other 299,000 until recently."

Other sources in the federal government admit that they do not know which or even how many companies produce the deadly chemical.

While the California Department of Food and Agriculture reports that at least 300,000 pounds of DBCP have been used in fields in the San Joaquin Valley since the beginning of 1976, they are forced to concede that loopholes in the reporting system make it possible to only know a fraction of the total amount which is used.

Nor do they know the effects of DBCP on farmworkers working in the Valley's fertile fields. □

## Brown Lung From Working In The Cotton Gin

(Chicago, Ill.) Jesse Hitchcock worked in cotton gins in Mississippi and Arkansas for about 12 years. Now living in Uptown, he has difficulty breathing. Although no doctor has ever come out and told him, he has brown lung. Like black lung, which comes from coal mining, brown lung, which is related to working around cotton dust, continues to be one of those diseases that "doesn't exist" except for those who have it. Following is an interview with Mr. Hitchcock about his experience in the cotton gin.

"I started working in Lambert, Mississippi when I was 13 years old. That was in a cotton gin. They gin the cotton that comes from the field there and bail it up. First they take the seed and all that out of it and then when they get through they bail it all up and send it to the textile mill. There's a lot of cotton dust, and it's worse in the gin than it is in the textile mills.

"First the cotton comes off the trailer when it

comes from the fields. Then it goes up through what they call the stands, where the seeds are taken out of it. Then the seed goes to the seed house and the cotton goes into a press, where they press it.

"When I was 16 I went into the navy, and when I came out I went to work for the same man. I worked another year for him in the gin, running a press, that presses the cotton, getting it ready for the textile mills. There was a lot of cotton dust there, and all over the ginning outfit.

"I worked in Arkansas at another gin running cotton stands for approximately four years. There was 8 stands and you got all that dust out of the fields coming through there. You have to breathe it if you work in there. You can just see it hanging off the walls, you know that dust, like spider webs, hanging over. And you've got to breathe it cause you're inside there with it.

"I've had a breathing problem for about 10 years now. A doctor on Wilson Ave. put me in the hospital and took x-rays but he didn't tell me anything. When I went in the hospital for surgery, they said my lungs were so congested that they didn't want to put me to sleep because they were afraid they'd give me



Jesse Hitchcock: "I've had a breathing problem for about 10 years now... you know that might have been something related to cotton dust, but the doctor wasn't saying nothing about it."



pneumonia. They gave me a spinal instead and my back's been hurting ever since. You know that might have been something related to the cotton dust, but the doctor wasn't saying nothing about it.

"The last time I worked in a cotton gin was last year. It's seasonal work. It comes in in September and it lasts until January. Then you have to go somewhere else to work.

"I've worked in the gins for a long time, and some things have improved. Like the labor laws, they can't hire young kids any more. But they still don't have dust controls in the cotton gins down south. No, they just laugh at you. You say something about the dust or something like that, they just tell you 'Get in there and get with it or else get the hell out.' It's just as simple as that. They'll hire another man in your place, and there's half a dozen out there waiting for your job. It's pitiful.

"Do you know what a dust control system in a cotton gin would cost? About \$50,000 or so. You're speaking in thousands of dollars. Now, you go down south and start talking about thousands of dollars and those people down there, they'll shoot you. Those big ginnermen down there (the big farmers), you don't mess with them unless you really got something to mess with them with.

"I know one guy, that fell from the top of the gin. He had steel in his leg way up here (upper thigh) and that poor guy didn't get nothing but his doctor bill paid. Now if somebody fell out of a steel mill up here, or something like that, you know what he'd get? He'd get a big settlement out of it. But not down there. You don't go down there to those farmers that own the big farms, cause they own the gins.

"Now down there, guys had breathing problems but they never would connect it with the cotton gins. They'd go to the doctor, and the doctor would give them a little something for breathing. Definitely there are problems with breathing when you work in a cotton gin. But the doctors down there go with those big farmers.

"A cotton gin is high as a six floor building and you got belts and pulleys all over the place. I have climbed clean to the top of that thing to help a guy put a belt back on. And that press goes 30 feet in the air. It stays up while they're putting the cotton in there. They put that loose cotton in there, then it comes down and packs it. Then you stick the ties in there and tie it out in bales.

"Everything around a gin is dangerous. There've been a lot of people killed. I know one boy, he was 19 years old—Johnson. He just stuck his hand where the cotton seeds from the stand weren't going through right. They have these saws to take the seeds

out, but the saws get dull, so you take these sticks and rake them in there and get them out. But he stuck his hand in there and the seed fuzzed up and grabbed his hand and he got all his fingers cut off." □

## **RANK'N FILE**

### **Hearings Held In Move To Unionize J.P. Stevens**

(Roanoke Rapids, N.C.) This quiet, green, Southern textile town of 14,000 people is the test locale for the value of a labor law reform bill that organized



A union label at J.P. Stevens is the key to sewing the union label on the booming and still largely non-union South.



labor regards as the key to sewing the union label on the booming and still largely non-union South.

A Congressional hearing on the new bill, called the Labor Reform Act, was conducted here last month because Roanoke Rapids has become the center of labor's battle to organize J.P. Stevens Co., the nation's second largest textile producer and the most militantly anti-union.

At stake, both union and management agree, is the future of organized labor in the South and, with that, the balance of industrial power between the Sunbelt and the more heavily organized industrial North, which has been losing jobs because Southern, non-union labor is cheaper and more tractable than its union card-carrying counterpart in the North, the New York Times reports.

"We're calling the legislation the J.P. Stevens bill," said William Dietz, administrative assistant to Representative Frank Thompson, Jr., who is the principal House sponsor of the legislation.

Both he and the chief Senate sponsors of the bill, which will streamline and speed up organizing efforts and make labor law violations more costly to management, have made it clear that Stevens is a major target of the proposed law.

"The Stevens company," Thompson said, "is one of the major inspirations for this bill. It is no secret that J.P. Stevens has become the model for anti-labor employers throughout the country."

In the battle against unionization Stevens, with a gross income of over \$1 billion annually, has been cited 15 times for violations of labor law, and has paid more than \$1.3 million in fines and back wages to employees it has dismissed for union activity.

Moreover, labor agrees that Stevens is the key to its "Southern domino theory." Essentially what that theory amounts to is that if Stevens, the most visibly anti-labor employer in the South, can be successfully organized and brought under contract, then the rest of the Southern textile industry can also be brought into the labor fold.

Further, since the textile industry employs one of every five industrial workers in the South, organizing it is considered essential to eventually organizing other segments of Southern industry.

After more than a decade of bitter struggle, the Textile Workers Union of America, now part of the merged Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union of America, won a representation election at seven Stevens plants here. Since then, another three years have gone by, and still no contract has been reached. □

## CONSUMER WATCH

### Opposition Mounts Against Proposed Bay Area Fare Hikes

(Oakland, Calif.) The threat of higher transit fares throughout the San Francisco Bay Area has sparked a mounting opposition by a broad-based group of local and state legislators and progressive community and labor organizations. The newly formed Bay Area Taxpayers Coalition has charged that pending legislation before the California State Senate and proposals by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) will result in "substantial fare increases between now and 1980-81."

Assembly Bill 1107, authored by Assembly Speaker Leo McCarthy (D-S.F.), would continue the half-cent sales tax in Alameda, Contra Costa and San



"People still dependent on public transit, especially the poor, the elderly and the young, would be taxed twice."



Francisco counties. In the past this tax has gone exclusively to BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit). Under the pending legislation, 25% of the tax revenues would be split in competition between AC Transit (Alameda County), Muni (San Francisco's transit company) and, again, BART.

A recent press release from BATC stated: "While the opportunity to receive a part of this 25% (some \$12 million last year) is the 'carrot' held out to AC Transit and Muni, there is also a 'stick.' The stick takes the form of a section of the bill which requires each of the transit systems to raise at least 33% of their operating costs from fare revenues. For both AC Transit and Muni, this will mean a series of forced fare increases.

"Both AC Transit and Muni now raise about 30% of their revenues from fares, and this rate is declining. Thus, the 33% farebox revenue requirement would compel the bus systems to raise their fares repeatedly and frequently. Fare hikes, besides being a tax on poor and working people, always drive passengers away from public transit and into automobiles. Projections by California's legislative analyst predict that in the year following the first nickel fare increase, AC Transit would lose 3½ million passengers and Muni would lose 9 million. Many, if not most, of these people would switch to cars."

"People still dependent on public transit, especially the poor, the elderly and the young, would be taxed twice—once every time they pay the extra half-cent sales tax and again each time they pay increased fares."

The MTC is presently considering a financial plan known as Resolution 459. The plan has served as the basis for A. B. 1107 in that it calls for 35% of public transit costs to be raised through fare revenues. MTC deals with a nine county area and is an unelected body. They have recently come under attack for raising bridge tolls in the Bay Area in order to make up for a projected \$104 million deficit projected by 1985 for the problem-plagued BART. BART, built as a pet project of San Francisco's downtown business interests, has been continually troubled by technical and financial problems since it opened in 1972. Elaine Brown, Vice-President and Chairperson of the Black Panther Party, speaking at a recent public hearing told the MTC, "It's ridiculous, to ask the poor and the minorities to absorb the costs of a poorly-managed transportation system."

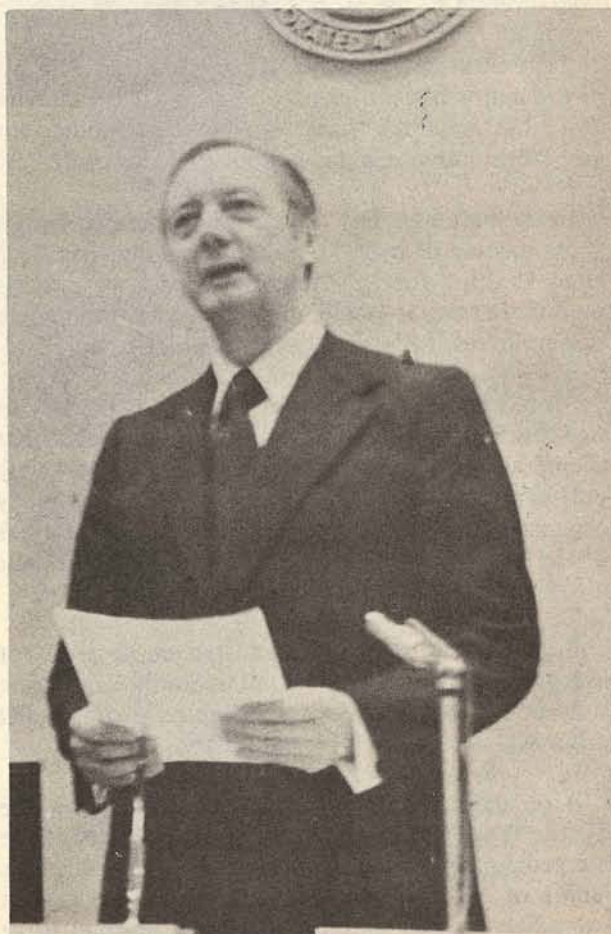
The broadly representative coalition includes the Black Panther Party, San Francisco Muni Coalition, OCCUR, Intercommunal Survival Committee, Sierra Clubs, Berkeley Citizens Action and the Center for Independent Living, among others. □

## **FIGHTING CITY HALL**

### **Bilandic Confronted On Chicago-Oakley Plan**

(Chicago, Ill.) Continuing their fight to stop the city of Chicago from using federal community development funds to destroy homes and businesses in the Chicago-Oakley area, angry residents from the neighborhood on the northwest side met last month with Mayor Bilandic. They continued to voice their opposition to the controversial Chicago-Oakley Urban Renewal Project. (See KEEP STRONG, July, 1977).

Ever since area residents found out about the city's plan a few months ago, community opposition has grown. Members of the PROS organization have



Mayor Bilandic has remained arrogant about opposition to the controversial Chicago-Oakley Urban Renewal Project.



vigorously protested the project which declares the 2200 block of West Chicago slum and blighted and plans demolition of 18 buildings including 23 dwelling units. Under the plan, the Ukrainian Congress would try to acquire the land and develop it for shops, a parking lot and a senior citizen home all exclusively for the use of the Ukrainian Church and its members.

Mayor Bilandic has remained arrogant about the plan. At first he claimed the "community liked the plan," and whenever questioned about it, sent his mouthpieces like Lew Hill (head of the Dept. of Development and Planning) or Deputy Mayor Ken Sain to the meetings in the community.

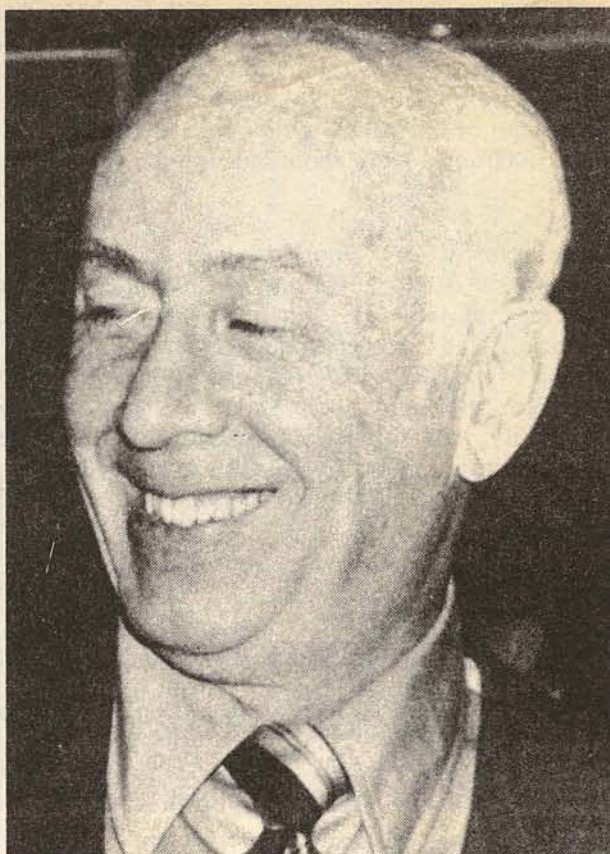
Finally, last month, due to increased pressure, Bilandic agreed to review the plan before any demolition starts. As part of the opposition to the plan, PROS filed a formal complaint with the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, recommending that no federal money be used to carry out the Chicago-Oakley Plan. The complaint, filed last month by PROS and other organizations, requests that HUD make a thorough investigation of the city's use of more than \$80 million in CD funds. PROS claims that the money has been misspent, and that there has been a notable lack of citizen participation in the administration of the program.

Bilandic told the group last month that he will wait until HUD makes a decision on the complaint and the plan, review the project, and send his answer to his "opponents." □

## ***Feds To City: "Clean Up Your Act."***

(Chicago, Ill.) As the result of a Department of Labor investigation into the city of Chicago's misuse of CETA (Comprehensive Employment Training Act) funds, the government announced late last month that the city illegally filled public service jobs intended for the hard core unemployed, with city workers who got their jobs through patronage and other political favors.

The scandal, touched off early in the summer by an expose in the Chicago Tribune, (See KEEP STRONG, July, 1977), revealed that the city used CETA money to hire temporarily laid off city workers. Under the federal law, the funds are to be used to create new jobs paying \$10,000 a year. The government found that those receiving the CETA jobs usually had letters of recommendation from an



Despite their assurances to the public that "nothing is wrong," the government told Chicago Manpower Director Sam Bernstein and other city officials to "clean up your act."

alderman, ward committeeman or other prominent Democratic Party politicians. In one case, a motor truck driver for the Department of Streets and Sanitation who made \$312 a week was laid off for 15 weeks (the exact number of weeks you need to be out of work to qualify for a CETA job) and was hired as a CETA worker at \$342 a week.

Although the government at first had difficulty in obtaining the city's records, the documents were turned over by the city after federal authorities threatened legal action. As the evidence was uncovered, midway through August, the government announced it was considering a federal takeover of the local program or reassignment of the funds and administration to a local non-profit agency.

Chicago officials, including Mayor Bilandic and Manpower Director, Sam Bernstein, flew back and forth to Washington, D.C. in an effort to save face and their coveted \$129.5 million public service jobs program. Despite their assurances to the public, that "nothing is wrong," the government told Bernstein and other officials to "clean up your act."

Under the memorandum, issued August 31, all future applications for CETA public service jobs will be handled through the Illinois Bureau of



Employment Security and not the city. Furthermore, a federal monitor, hired on a full-time basis, will oversee the program. In addition, the city must reimburse the federal government \$965,460. This comes out of the \$129.5 million allocated to the city for 15,000 jobs. Only about half the jobs have been filled.

Department of Labor officials sharply reprimanded the city for its misuse of funds intended for the unemployed. U.S. Labor Secretary, Ray F. Marshall said the government "cannot tolerate" abuses in the CETA program such as those found in Chicago. Marshall suspects similar scandals in New York City, Atlanta and Gary. All records from the Chicago investigation will be forwarded to the U.S. Justice Department for possible criminal charges and prosecution. □

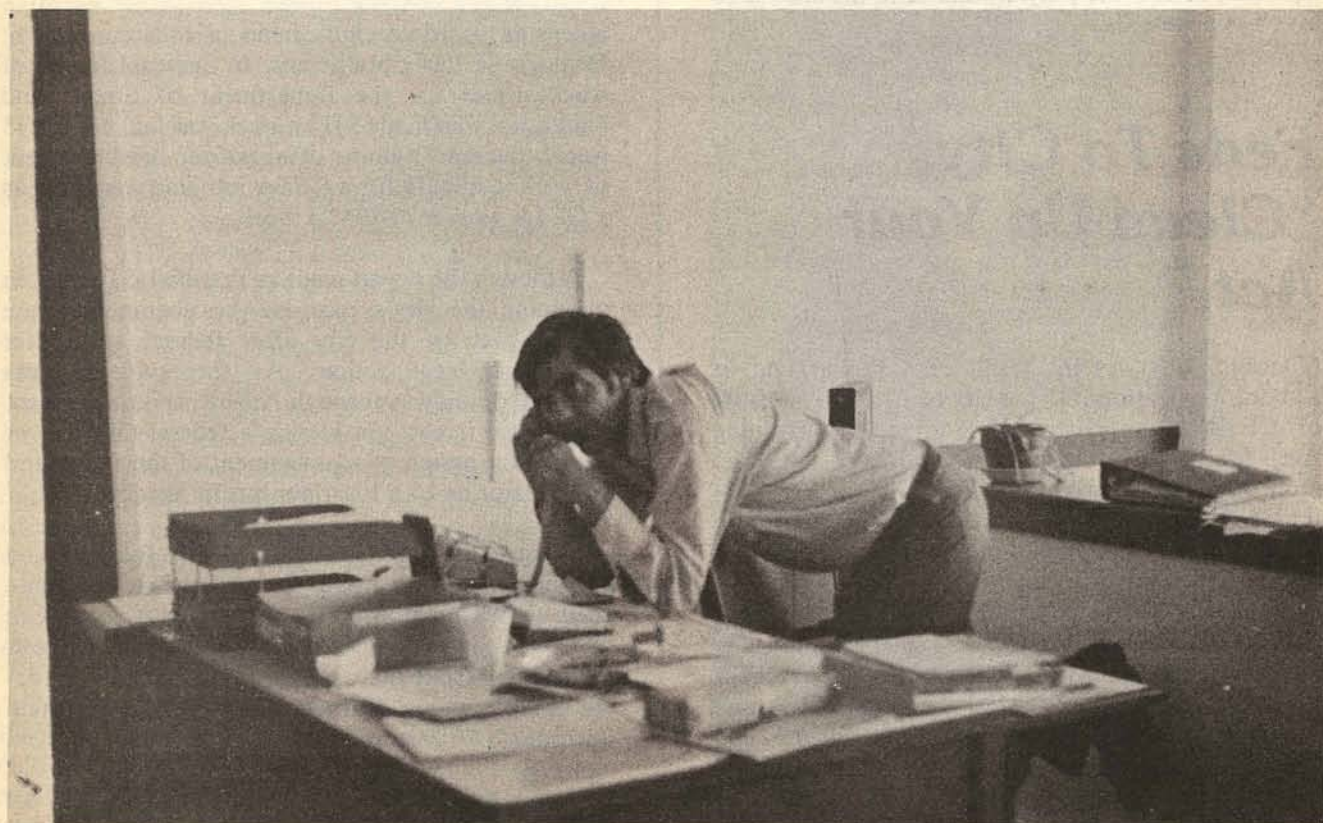
## **Milwaukee Poverty Agencies Under Attack**

(Milwaukee, Wis.) Community control became a key issue recently in the struggle between Milwaukee's social service agencies and residents of the city's poor and oppressed communities. Public outcry

escalated as the city's main poverty program, the Inner City Development Project (ICDP), white-washed an investigation into the fitness of Southside ICDP director, Ted Seaver. The ICDP Board of Governors refused to remove Seaver from his position, ignoring demands of its own Southside Residents Council.

A long history of struggle for community control of policy decisions and program funding of the ICDP's Southside programs had culminated in formal charges against Seaver and the accompanying demand that he be fired. Seaver is charged with guiding the agency to become an information-gathering network for city hall, rather than a program oriented to community service.

Seaver has been described by many southside residents as a "manipulator" who uses the people for his own personal ambitions. In 1972, Seaver was paying himself \$16,000 a year with Model Cities money as director of the Milwaukee Tenants Union. Within a short period of time, he was picked up as an assistant to the mayor to help limit growing community pressure to provide decent housing in the poor communities. In 1975, he helped cut off early criticism of city development plans by arranging "payoffs" to certain community groups including a \$30,000 deal with the tenants union he once directed. Later, he was a major force in the near closing of Esperanza Unida, a Southside program helping unemployed Latino workers.



The resignation of ICDP Director Ted Seaver (above) has been demanded by the Southside community.





Press conference held by Milwaukee Chapter of the Black Panther Party announcing its reopening and taking the opportunity to support the community struggle to remove Ted Seaver.

As director of the Southside ICDP, his major concern has been to get a large "body count" on how many residents are seen each day regardless of whether or not they have been served by the program.

Armed with nearly a hundred Southside members, many with signs demanding Seaver's removal, the council brought to the August board meeting their demands that Seaver be fired.

Using what one community organizer called "some of the most intricate double-dealing seen in a long time," the Board chairperson, Lena Talbert, ruled out of order the motion to direct Ms. Rose Marie Holley (overall ICDP director) to fire Seaver. Instead, a motion was made to accept Ms. Holley's report on the investigation of charges into Seaver. This report stated that she could find no reason to dismiss Seaver.

Heated discussion followed until a ten minute recess was called. The Northside board used this opportunity to caucus. Unfortunately, the caucus ended with most of its members voting against community control when the vote was finally taken. At a crucial moment, one member of the Southside board was ruled ineligible to vote because of a technicality. The remainder of the Southside members, mainly Latino, showed their demand for community control over poverty programs. Howev-

er, the end result was that the motion to keep Seaver passed by one vote.

Leading a city-wide response, the Black Panther Party denounced the vote. The Party made a statement in support of the community struggle to remove Ted Seaver as Director of the Southside ICDP. This support was voiced during a press conference called to announce the reopening of the Milwaukee Chapter of the Black Panther Party and the formation of the Justice for Huey P. Newton Committee.

Meanwhile, the United Black Community Council (UBCC), which has many of its members on the Northside Board of Governors, issued a press release publicly criticizing its members for failure to support their own stated goal of community control. They charged that a serious misunderstanding of the relationship between poor people in general, and the Latino community in particular, exists.

The future of the ICDP and its parent group, the Social Development Commission, remains shaky, according to community activists. These organizations, they say, must begin to direct their efforts in the interest of the people they were designed to serve. "If they can't," one observer noted, "then Ted Seaver's future, as well as that of the ICDP, is not here. They will be forced to fold, pack up and leave the oppressed community." □



# THE GREAT SAN FRANCISCO LAND RUSH

The Great San Francisco Land Rush is on. The land rush was started and, in part, financed, by some of the largest U.S. corporations and the largest single bank (Bank of America with over \$61 billion in deposits). Real estate developers and speculators, with the encouragement of the mayor and the Board of Supervisors, and the eager assistance of a battery of city agencies (San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, Office of Community Development, Bureau of Building Inspection, etc.) are sinking their hands into communities and pulling out fistfuls of money. While some neighborhoods, like the Mission District's Latino community, or the Black Fillmore area are better than others, no neighborhood will escape the growing wave of pickings of hungry land grabbers.

The Great San Francisco Land Rush is phase II of the city's 30-year comprehensive masterplan to drive out poor and working people and establish San Francisco as a "Wall Street West," surrounded by a string of White middle class enclaves.

The need for such a masterplan was recognized 15-20 years ago as San Francisco was becoming a center for international banking and trade, linking the east and midwest with the Pacific market, and vice versa. The Black, Latino and Asian people who were drawn or brought here for cheap, unskilled labor to build the railroads, ships and ports so vital to this city's life, formed a massive corridor of communities stretching down the eastern half of the city. Almost one-half of the city's population, occupying one-fourth of the land space, separates the downtown financial district and Bay front port area from the rest of the city. Not only did they form a huge voting bloc, growing at a rate that could soon give them power in the city, but the urban insurrections of the 1960's evidenced the terrible destructive rage that these impoverished and segregated communities were capable of.

Phase I, called "Urban Renewal," was swift, deadly and thorough. By 1970, thousands and thousands of units of low-income housing from Chinatown and south of Market (immediately near the financial district) down the corridor to the Hunters Point Black community, were destroyed. Today, much of the cleared land still remains vacant in testimony to the city's desire to make San Francisco a nice place for the Bank of America and Standard Oil of California to live.

While the city's organized destruction successfully damaged old neighborhoods and uprooted thousands of families, the number of oppressed Black, Latino and Asian and poor Whites was not reduced; the problem did not go away. The population grew and the corridor remained intact.

At the turn of the decade over 91,000 families were living in inadequate, substandard or overcrowded housing (the population of San Francisco is less than 700,000). The vacancy rate in these communities has not climbed above 2% (or 1.5% for large family housing) since then. The people were not driven out, but rather herded into closer quarters.

The river of federal urban renewal money for large scale land acquisition/demolition programs went dry under Nixon and Ford. In the 1970's, forced to deal with the federal alphabet soup — EDA, HUD, LEAA, CDA for much less money, the city itself went into the real estate brokerage business and the land rush was on.

Officially calling their plans for displacement 1) "conserving existing housing"; 2) "developing new housing"; 3) "improving neighborhood quality"; and 4) "increasing economic development"; the city administrators have become the new hucksters, doing everything they can to turn over property in the oppressed corridor. By now most families know that



**mas·ter** (mäs'tər, mäs'/-), *n.* 1. one who has the power of controlling, using, or disposing of something at pleasure:

**plan** (plăn), *n., v., planned, planning.* —*n.* 1. a scheme of action or procedure: *a plan of operations.* 2. a design or scheme of arrangement. 3. a project or definite purpose: *plans for the future.*

## IS THERE A MASTERPLAN FOR SAN FRANCISCO?



the words, "conserve," "improve" and "develop" do not state the real intentions of the planners but are only meant to confuse. "Develop" has meant the closing down of hundreds of units of public housing in Hunters Point, so the land can be sold to private developers. "Develop" has also meant the acquisition of chunks of Chinatown which the city will turn around and sell. The midnight-to-dawn August 3 eviction of International Hotel tenants by 400 armed police under the direction of San Francisco's liberal, political sheriff Hongisto to make room for a garage, and the recent announcement by the New York-based Yerby Corp. to build a \$50 million

executive park across the street from Hunters Point, serve as evidence to many community leaders that "any new housing developed in these areas won't have room for us."

"Conserve existing housing" means that federally funded FACE (Federally Assisted Code Enforcement) and RAP (Rehabilitation Assistance Program) programs are designed to flood a community with building inspectors demanding immediate and costly repairs and renovation. It also means forcing small landlords to double their rents to meet increased property taxes and expenses, or sell quickly and get





The Great San Francisco Land Rush is phase II of the city's 30-year comprehensive masterplan to drive out poor and working people and establish San Francisco as a "Wall Street West," surrounded by a string of white middle class enclaves.

out. Each day large families and small businesses are forced to move from their communities in the Mission, Fillmore, Haight and Western Addition as the rents jump without notice.

The Great San Francisco Land Rush is a highly orchestrated pincer movement attacking the oppressed corridor from four directions at once and preventing it from moving west.

The newly formed fifth district (Haight, Duboce/Buena Vista, Noe/Eureka Valleys) is the western front of the city's attack. It borders the corridor immediately to the west. The string of communities had been older ethnic White working class areas in the 1950's and into the 1960's. They were the easiest neighborhoods for displaced Black, Asians, Latinos and poor Whites to move into. The hucksters went to work. In the last three years alone the city has spent almost \$4 million on building code enforcement programs in these areas. The investment brought big returns. Real estate outfits sprung up all over. Their 2x2 feet signs are visible on buildings everywhere. "Cute" little restaurants, boutiques and antique shops have replaced 40-year old grocery and hardware stores. An apartment that rented for \$160 five years ago, now costs \$400 (two months' rent in advance plus \$100 security deposit). Castro Street, only a few years ago, was a low-income community;

today, the real estate agents push it as the "gay community." Its business district looks like Chicago's New Town or New York's East Village.

Ralph K. Davis Medical Center-Franklin Hospital sits on the edge of the Duboce Triangle community. Not wanting to be left out of the great land rush, the hospital has announced their plans to expand their facilities by \$50 million in new construction. While community organizations surrounding the hospital oppose this expansion, the hospital insists it must go ahead. Calling the move "just another step in the city's program to make it more expensive to live here and further cut this area off from poor and working people," community leaders have pointed to the hospital's bad record of health care delivery to minority and poor people as one chief reason why it need not expand.

Activists point to the historical truth that hospitals, colleges, etc. create exclusive communities by attracting professionals who can pay higher rents and further force property tax assessments upward. While increased traffic congestion and reduced parking are some of the reasons many oppose the hospital, as part of the city's 30-year masterplan, the hospital expansion is another step in making San Francisco the Johannesburg (a racially divided, White-controlled city in South Africa) of the West. □



# “WHAT’S GOING TO HAPPEN WHEN I’M 35?”

One of the groups hardest hit and most affected in New York City by the current policies of “planned shrinkage” are the youth of the community. Unemployment among young people in New York is higher than in any other major city, and the high school dropout rate around the city is over 50%. Since 1975 there has also been a severe cutback in recreational activities, job training and other services that are important to young people. This month KEEP STRONG talked with youth in the Greenpoint community of Brooklyn to see what effects the current masterplan of “planned shrinkage” has had on them.

## EDUCATION

DONNA L.: I’m in the sixth grade. Some teachers, they don’t even bother teaching you. Kids really want to learn, even in pre-kindergarten. But they can’t, because they’re not taught right.

DONNA B.: I’m 17 and I go to Queens Vocational High School. There’s a lot of racial problems in the school and there’s a lot of teachers who don’t get along with the students. They’re just coming there to work, to earn money; that’s the only reason they’re there. They told us that too. ‘We’re here not only to teach you, but to get our paychecks.’ That’s the only thing that they’re interested in — to get paid. The teachers gave me a book and they’ll tell you to read it, and then they’ll pull out a newspaper and start reading it. And I don’t think that’s right. They should be teaching us about what’s going on, on the outside, about Nixon and all them. The only thing I really learned in 11 years of school was how to add, subtract, multiply, type and spell.

DANNY: Most of the kids in public schools are out of there by sixth grade, hanging out on the streets. Another problem is that once you go to school there isn’t a guarantee you can get a job these days. My



Neighborhood youth line up to apply for jobs at the new store where Bohack's used to be: "...they tell you you're not old enough."





Young people hanging out in Winthrop Park: "Nobody will make the neighborhood better unless we make it better."

sister went to four years of college studying to be a kindergarten teacher. She's got to take a degree in nursing now, go back to school again, take out another loan, 'cause she don't have no money; take out another loan to go two or three years to get a nursing degree. The four years that she already did — that's wasted away. And she's gotta do it all by herself; the city's not helping her.

### EMPLOYMENT

**DONNA B.:** I work for the Department of Sanitation — on a summer job. In two weeks I get \$103.94 and that ain't enough 'cause I have to help my mother support my family. That's the only reason why I'm working and that's why we're moving. 'Cause there ain't no jobs. My mother can't even get a job. We've been raised around here and I don't understand why they don't let us have jobs.

**PHIL.:** It's not just jobs. I worked at a lot of places. I was working at \$2.35 an hour. You work 40 hours a week and you come home with \$70, \$75-\$80, that's no good. When you're really working and you're there nine hours, you don't get paid for it. A kid today, from 16-22 or 25, you don't have a chance to make a living. Nobody wants you.

**NICKY:** It's been like this for the last two years, that I've noticed it. They were giving those jobs out to kids. You see all those guys on the front page? I would have gone down here, but you didn't have a

chance. How many jobs were they giving out — 15,000? How many kids showed up? Something like 50,000? And everyone wants to get ahead of you, just like you want to get ahead of them.

**PHIL:** What's going to happen when I'm 35? That's what I worry about. They figure now that jobs are tight; they would rather give the job to a guy with a family and kids. Hey, there's no father in my house and my mother has to bust her chops all day. She works as a waitress.

I was making \$2.35 an hour. At the end of six months I had all my benefits and I got laid off. They laid off a lot of people. It was at the end of the pickling season. They do it every year and get away with it. I was so tight for a job I was going to go back.

**DANNY:** My father had a job at Trunz. For 22 years he was working at that place. All of a sudden — different owners — and it just closed down. We had all the benefits...dentist, doctor. We got nothing now. Who wants someone who's 50 years old? It just closed down. Everything stopped. Now he's lucky to make \$150 a week, you know what I mean. He had to start all over again. He had no skills; he was working there since he was 20 years old. Now my mother got to go out to work. She never had to work before. She's not skilled, so she gets \$100 a week while these other people, just out of college, are making \$200 a



week. They figure she's desperate.

There's a lot of fights between Blacks, Puerto Ricans and Whites. It's not like it's the Black person's fault, because they need a job just as much as we need it. So we're saying it's the city's fault for not helping the people. That's what causes Blacks and Whites to fight.

KELLY: They say all the youth are always out starting trouble. If we had money we'd be going to the movies, doing this and that, if we had a job. When you go for a job they tell you you're not old enough. Just like that new store where Bohack's used to be. We went over there. They looked at all of us and said, "How old are you?" I said 16 and he said you had to be 17. I was in there first, too.

### HEALTH CARE

DANNY: My mother just went to Greenpoint Hospital recently. She had six stitches across her

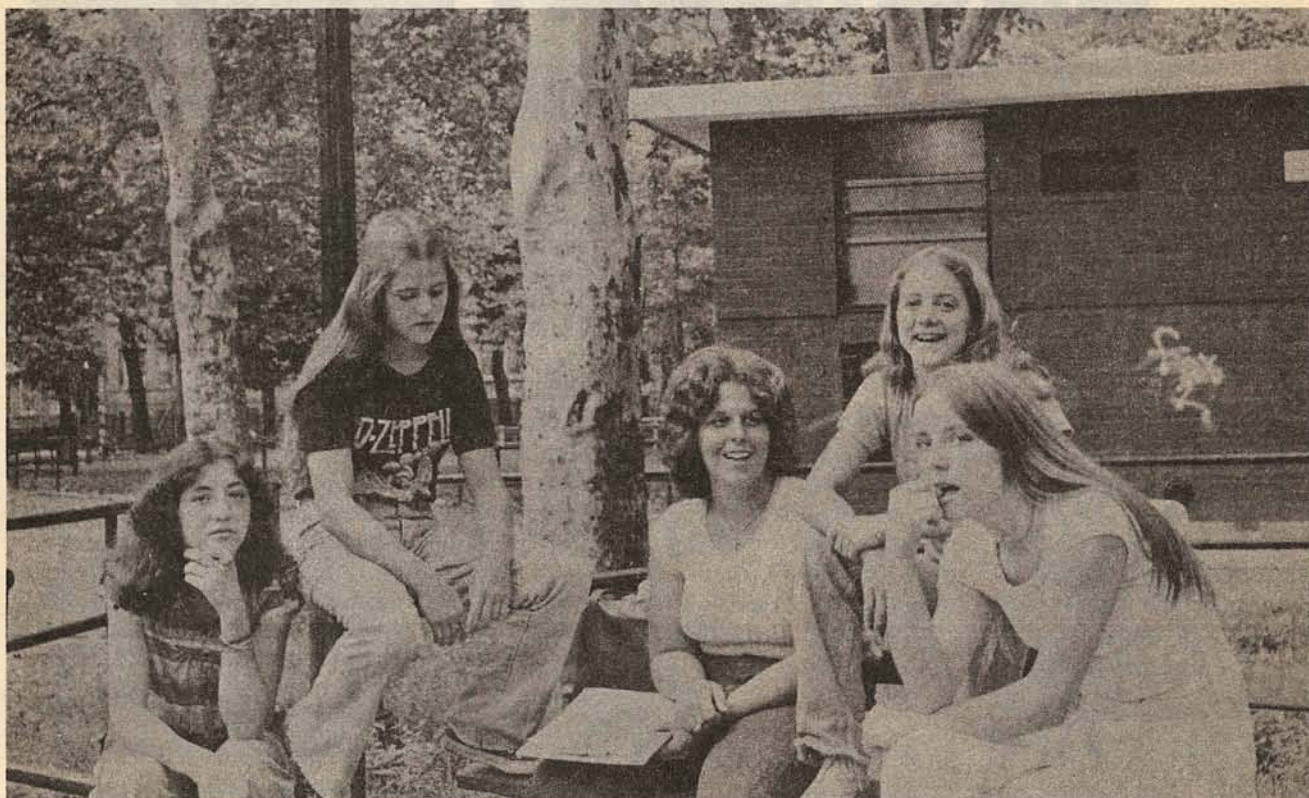
### HOUSING

DONNA B.: Landlords are another problem. My landlord made us move because we missed a month's rent. You know, he told my mother, because her check didn't come, to move. My mother had six kids and it's hard to move.

DANNY: Half these landlords don't even live around here. If you don't live in the house or the neighborhood, you don't care how it is. My landlord lives in my house and he ain't gonna let it go. He's gonna build it up. If I owned a house and didn't live there, I wouldn't care, as long as they bring me the money. That's a big problem.

NANCY: You can't get fire insurance around here anymore. Greenpoint used to be really nice and now they're gonna let it go like parts of Williamsburg and just let it be a slum.

PHIL: Nobody else will make the neighbor-



"Most of the kids in public schools are out of there by the sixth grade, hanging out on the streets."

hand. She was waiting there five hours. They do what they have to do. I mean they can't make somebody wait there with their intestines hanging out, but then, if someone just got hurt, but it's not an emergency, they don't care about them. They just let them wait there.

KELLY: Two people I know, one guy, he got stabbed and he almost was close to dying. They pulled him through. I mean the doctors are good, but it's the waiting time that's a problem.

hood better unless we make it better. But nobody's going to do it for nothing, let's get it straight. I mean, cleaning up a park when you're 15 or 16, sure, but you're not going to take a whole house and rebuild it unless you're going to live in it. Take a look at Winthrop Park — the lawn. You could do something with it, put in a whole new drive; you could fix up the shelter house. People could get paid for that. Look at P.S. 110; look at that school. Knock it down, build up another one. You know how many jobs that could be? □



# **MODEL SCHOOL RECEIVES AWARD FROM CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE**

The Oakland Community School (OCS), widely praised by local and state officials and community leaders for its outstanding contribution to the education of Black and poor youth, received a special commendation last month from the California State Legislature for obtaining "...the highest level of scholastic achievement in elementary education" and for having "concretely defied the myth of the uneducable child..."

The framed resolution was presented to Huey P. Newton, founder and president of the Black Panther Party, who founded the East Oakland-based model elementary level OCS in 1971; Elaine Brown, chairperson of the BPP and executive director of Educational Opportunities Corporation (EOC), the non-profit, tax-exempt, community-based organization that administers the OCS; and Ericka Huggins, director of the OCS and a leading BPP member.

On hand to witness the presentation at the California State Capitol steps ceremony in Sacramento on Thursday, August 18, were 12 children who attend the School. For many of them, it was their first trip to the Capitol, and they were both proud of the well deserved commendation given to the OCS and excited at the opportunity to see the state legislature chambers, which they later toured.

It was a particularly proud and happy occasion for Huey. The inadequate and racist education the Black Panther Party leader experienced as a student in the Oakland public schools led him to conclude several years ago that alternative schools must be established so that Black, minority and poor children can obtain

an education not only reflective of their culture but one that provides them with the necessary skills of reading, writing and mathematics.

In January, 1971, Huey's dream became a reality as concerned parents and community people joined with the BPP in starting the OCS, at that time called the Huey P. Newton Intercommunal Youth Institute.

In the fall of 1973, the School, which previously had operated in various storefronts, moved into its present location, the Oakland Community Learning Center at 6118 E. 14th Street. From its initial 1971 enrollment of 25, the School expanded, enrolling 151 children during the 1976-77 academic year.

Ten years ago, several members of the Black Panther Party, armed with guns, entered the Assembly chambers to protest a pending gun control bill authored by then Assemblyman Don Mulford of Berkeley.

Several Party members were arrested in the May 2, 1967, incident, and the legislature subsequently enacted laws making it a crime to enter the Capitol bearing arms and installed a system of television security monitors throughout the building.

Asked by reporters how he felt to be receiving a commendation in light of the incident 10 years ago, Huey responded:

"I have always concluded that the United States is rather absurd in many of its activities, and therefore, I am not surprised by anything. I think there is an important change in the attitude of the people in the Capitol at this time.





Top: Ericka Huggins, Elaine Brown, Huey P. Newton and children from the Oakland Community School receive a commendation from the California State Legislature praising the innovative, community-based school. Bottom left: A martial arts demonstration was one of many activities at the Radiothon sponsored by the Oakland Community Learning Center and KRE Radio in late August. Bottom right: A science class at the Oakland Community School.



"I am grateful that our school is recognized by some members of the government in the state of California and that more people recognize our input into the community to educate and to really create a community—a comprehensive collection of institutions to serve our people," Huey said.

Questioned as to whether the BPP has changed over the last decade, Huey noted, "Our basic goals have not changed. We have changed some of our tactics because we believe that tactics must correlate to conditions at a particular time. Now, in the 1970's, it is time to demand full employment for the people.

"We are waiting to see what the state of California will do and what the United States government will do to employ all its people," the BPP chief theoretician emphasized.

In accepting the honor on behalf of the Oakland Community School, Elaine Brown said, "We will be very proud to show this resolution. We think that we have developed a very fine school, and we're happy that the state has chosen to recognize that." □

*Reprinted from The Black Panther*



# LIKE THE SUN AT SEVEN IN THE MORNING

Chet Branham, who, although young, was already involved in the struggle for survival and justice, and whose family has been very active in the black lung association, tenants union, food coop and other community survival programs, became another victim taken by Lake Michigan when he drowned Saturday, August 27. What follows is the statement made by ISC national coordinator Slim Coleman at the funeral services held Tuesday, August 30, one of Chet's favorite poems and a letter to Chet from a close relative.

We counted on Chet — manchild, warrior, lover and friend. We counted on him to take up the struggles we haven't won; to answer the questions we can't answer; to fulfill dreams we dream of dreaming; and to take up the small victories and fruits of our labor and by benefiting from them make our lives worthwhile. But instead, we have been left to walk this much more alone.

Because Chet was one of the best of our young brothers, he has taken a large part of our hope from us. But because he was already strong in his mind, Chet would have had us place our strength all the more fiercely into the hope that remains. Our hope is in young people not even Chet's age, who may very likely not even realize the strength and character that Chet realized at fourteen. Unnurtured and undefended, how many will not make it?

Sometimes we grieve so hard for the loss of a young brother like Chet, but we do nothing when a low-life excuse for a man puts a glue bag in a nine-year old girl's face, or sells a young boy, a growing manchild, pollutants or amphetamines; or sets up a shot of heroin for his arm. How can we

grieve the loss of our young people and let the destruction of their lives go on in front of our eyes unchallenged?

Sometimes we grieve so hard the loss of a young brother like Chet, but we do nothing when, daily, minds remain darkened in the schools; unable to read; when daily, young lives are filled with petty confusion that makes 13 and 14-year old boys responsible for each other's death in imitation gang warfare, protecting from each other that which the rich and powerful intend to give neither.

Sometimes we grieve so hard the loss of a young brother like Chet, but do nothing to change a world where his brothers and sisters will have no jobs, no health care, no decent homes; where they will be mauled by the police, embittered in the courts and twisted in the jails. How can we grieve so hard and fight so little?

In the last two days we have watched a flood of young grief. Chet's sisters and brothers, his friends, have come to see him already gone from life and their tears have turned mountains of stone to melting snow. They have shown their love for life; what will we do for them?

We should honor the mother today who brought Chet into this world. She is a fine, loving, caring and strong mother who raised a beautiful son. And we should honor the strength and love passed on from that mother's own mother who is here today. We should give the grief that is due to Chet, because he is deserving.

But only part of this grief is for Chet, and part of it is for ourselves, for our loss. And we have no right to





Should I go first and you  
remain to walk the road alone  
please live in memories garden  
Mom of happy days. I go first  
and you all will follow soon  
because I'll stop and wait for you  
all just behind the moon.  
from Chet to  
my family



August 30, 1977  
Tuesday evening

#### My Little King of Uptown

It's Tuesday evening; it's dark again. The sun has gone down, yes gone down for the last time on earth for Chet, but he will see the sunrise again in Heaven. Yes, Heaven.

God visited Uptown again and picked another Rose from a bunch of thorns. Chet, I stayed with you through it all just as much as I could. I feel that you knew and saw. I stood and observed everyone. They all loved you. The Little King of Uptown had been taken away.

So many friends you had. They all came with their personal kind of love for you and brought you their prized little treasures to take on your trip with you. They all marched with their heads held high and their grief showing on their little faces. Such grown up minds in children's bodies. Some seemed angry and bitter. They had lost their leader, Their Little King, and couldn't understand why. And neither could I. Your dog was waiting on the curb as you went by with a look of proudness and Royalty and sadness at the same time. Why shouldn't he look Royal, you were his Master. He was proud for having had you for awhile and sad because you were leaving. God gave you with pride and your mother gave you back with pride and sadness. I feel fortunate that you touched my life, "Little King of Uptown." Thank you for the sunshine you left in my heart. Little King of Uptown, I love you.

Goodbye, Chet.

grieve if we tolerate danger and injustice to the children.

To those many young people here today, Chet's friends and sisters and brothers, count on us, but count mostly on yourselves. Take strength from the love you have for Chet. Be strong, be beautiful, because you are like the sun at seven in the morning and have the right to a long day's journey before night. □



# **1000 ATTEND SURVIVAL DAY AND HEALTH FAIR**

There was a lot of activity, music and mingling as the Second Annual Uptown People's Survival Day Celebration got underway August 13 on the Sunnyside Mall. The yearly event went beyond the daily petty clashes and antagonisms common in this community, under attack by developers, speculators and institutions only interested in its destruction rather than its growth. Nearly 1,000 community residents who came by during the day to enjoy the company of their neighbors, or the continuous music provided by their sons, daughters and acquaintances, or to be screened for a possible medical problem as a health fair brought the expectation of a comprehensive family health clinic home to all, commented freely on their appreciation of having at least this one peaceful day on the Sunnyside Mall.

Filled with a delicious lunch of hot dogs, potato chips and fresh fruit, the many children present were delighted by the original theater production of "ZAS," performed by the Bread and Roses Theater group. Following next, were four provoking hours of

music provided by Ozark Blue, Johnny Grey. The Rhythm Rangers and Uptown's own "hurricane on strings," Lil' Fiddlin' Suzie Zarb. Topping off the day's events was a homemade dinner of fried chicken, potato salad and fresh vegetables.

Information booths provided by many of the community's survival programs colorfully spotted the mall, providing information on available programs such as the Each One Teach One Program described as "a survival program for the minds of our youth," as well as concrete services. The Uptown People's Community Service Center's Legal Defense Program, for instance, was staffed all day long with two attorneys who were available to anyone who sought legal advice. Meanwhile, the Chicago Area Black Lung Association provided information on occupational health and safety with the assistance of doctors specially trained in this area.

While the festivities continued on the Mall, a full scale health fair was underway around the corner at



Judy Daily (left) displays \$500 she won in the raffle held to raise funds for the community-oriented survival programs of the Uptown People's Community Service Center. The Bread and Roses Puppet Theater (right) performs a children's play for neighborhood youth.



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# FIGHTING THE CHICAGO MASTERPLAN

## PART 1

### THE COURTROOM

High up on the 23rd floor of the Federal Building in downtown Chicago the lawyers are arguing before Judge Prentice Marshall. Listening in the few rows of seats provided in the plush courtroom are ordinary people, welfare recipients, working people now unemployed, young and old, Black, Latino and White—and poor. The people come from Uptown, Near North-Cabrini Green, Westtown, Pilsen, Kenwood-Oakland and Lawndale, the neighborhoods which make up the heart of Chicago's vast sprawling communities of desperation. They are the plaintiffs in a lawsuit, attacking the most powerful men in the city; men like A. Robert Abboud, Chairman of the First National Bank of Chicago and Thomas G. Ayers, Chairman and President of Commonwealth Edison Co. The lawyer for the plaintiffs is James P. Chapman.

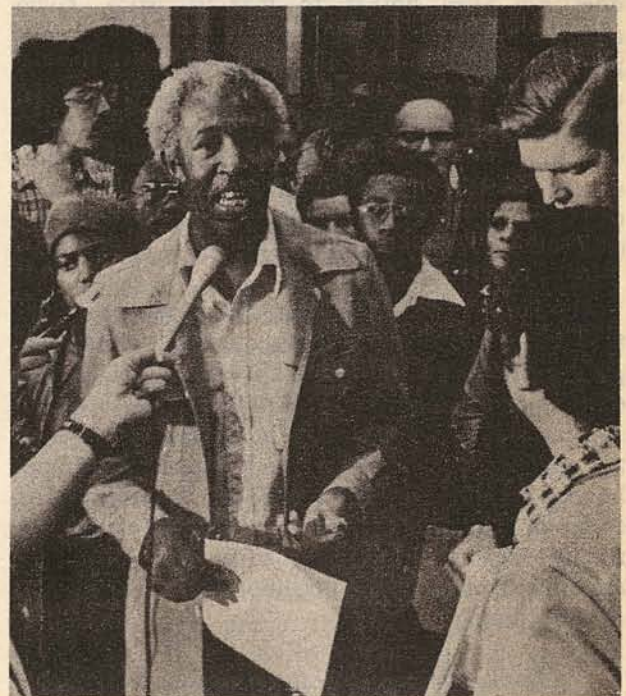
"Your honor, these plaintiffs come here today requesting information that should legally be available to any citizen," Chapman argues. "We seek the correspondence between the city and the Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration which concerns the city's application to become a federal redevelopment area. "The acceptance of the city's application would make Chicago eligible to receive over \$250 million for 108 economic development projects.

The community plaintiffs in this suit have argued that the city actually intends to use this massive amount of federal money to build middle and upper-income housing developments in the central area instead of putting the money to work to create jobs and prosperity in the poor and oppressed neighborhoods. The plaintiffs point out that there are no guarantees (written into the plans) that the proposed jobs will go to the hard-core unemployed. In fact, the Overall Economic Development Plan

(OEDP) committee actually has a written policy that federal job money should not go to the hard core unemployed, but to those unemployed people most recently out of work, with good job records, education and certified job skills.

### REPORTED IN THE NEWSPAPERS

While the suit brought by community groups proceeds in the courts, the newspapers report challenge after challenge made to the city's use of federal funds aimed at the unemployed and the communities where they live. The city of Chicago already has lost much control over the gigantic



The plaintiffs in the lawsuit attacking the most powerful men in the city are ordinary people from Uptown, Near North-Cabrini Green, Westtown, Pilsen, Kenwood-Oakland and Lawndale.



CETA job training program because CETA jobs were given to city employees on the basis of political connections, not to the hard core unemployed. And the city's application for third-year Community Development Act (CDA) funds is, reportedly, under federal scrutiny because the city did not spend the first two years' money on low-income housing as is required by law.

While community leaders protest that the misuse of CETA funds and CDA funds reflects the city's determination to run poor people from the city and replace them with the White middle class, the mayor's ace man for federal negotiation, Sam Bernstein, goes to D.C. and the federal government's objections seem to "get worked out."

### IN PRIVATE INDUSTRY

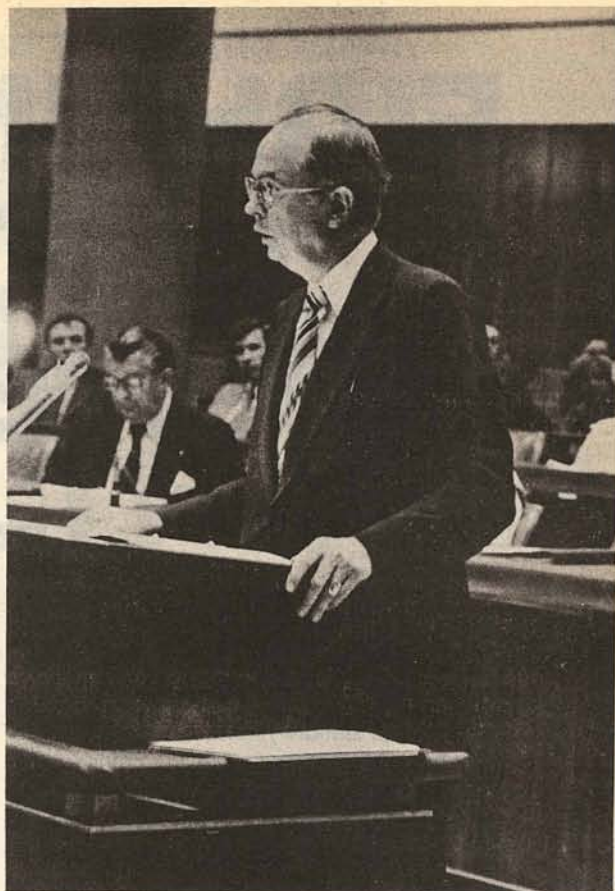
Analysts report that private industry is less and less willing to spend the money it takes to find jobs and train the unskilled and unemployed. More industry leaves the city. U.S. Steel reports that they are about to shut down the Southworks, leaving thousands more jobless. The city's response to the flight of industry is to build more downtown office buildings, more multi-million dollar, middle-class high rises and more downtown attractions for the middle class like the State Street Mall.

### IN THE COMMUNITY

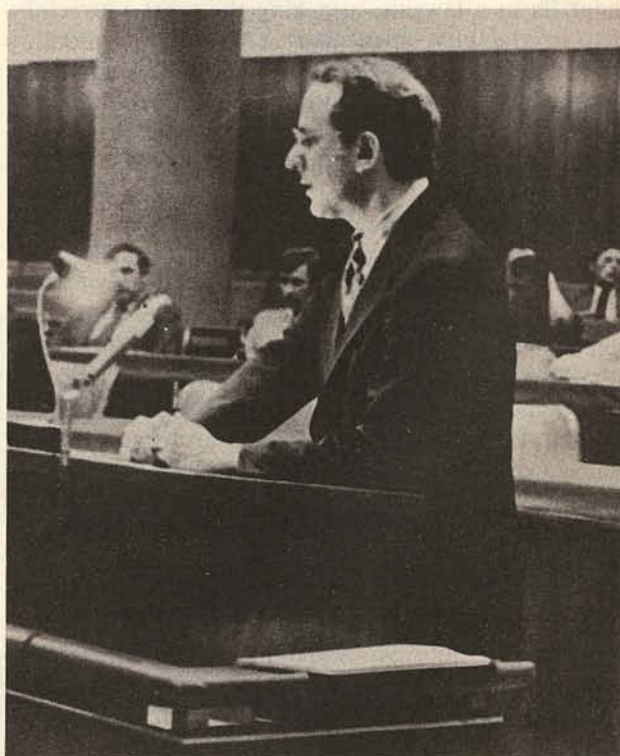
While survival crime rises, unemployment soars in the neighborhoods where the Department of Labor does not even bother to take statistics. Civic organizations estimate unemployment in the oppressed neighborhoods as high as 40%, and youth unemployment twice as much. Buildings deteriorate from absentee slumlords, and families are the victims of arson for profit. Insecure police, psychologically unequipped for the oppressed community, pile up a record of brutality and murder that enrages the community and does nothing to control crime.

Housed in storefront offices, struggling for money to pay the rent, community organizations attempt to put together neighborhood improvement plans and economic development plans without the technical assistance necessary to make the plans acceptable to the city planners. Years of work to save neighborhood after neighborhood ends in frustration, as community groups discover through bitter experience that the city has no intention of putting substantial amounts of money into neighborhood development or job training.

The systematic destruction and planned deterioration of neighborhoods ends in people being pushed from long segregated neighborhoods into other already overcrowded communities. Racial tension mounts, and egged on by hard core racists like the



Thomas G. Ayers, President of Commonwealth Edison, defending Chicago's masterplan to the Chicago Plan Commission in the City Council chambers last June.



Meanwhile, the plaintiffs' attorney, James P. Chapman, eloquently demands justice for his clients before the same Chicago Plan Commission.





The systematic destruction and planned destruction of neighborhoods ends in people being pushed from long-segregated neighborhoods into other already overcrowded communities. Racial tension mounts... the stage is set for race war.

KKK and the Nazis, breaks into violence around the issue of school busing. The stage is set for race war.

#### FROM WASHINGTON D.C.

Carter announces his new welfare reform bill, which even after improvements mandated by criticism from groups like the Urban League and the NAACP, is a thinly disguised plan to cut the welfare rolls. Cash grants are cut in the anticipation of jobs to supplement recipients' income, but all the evidence shows there will be no jobs. Urban experts speculate that Carter has come to agree with the position that the cities can only be saved if massive amounts of those on public assistance and the unemployed—what Time Magazine calls the underclass—are removed quickly from the cities by any means necessary.

#### BACK IN COURT

Meanwhile, back in court, attorney Chapman concludes his argument before the judge. The federal government attorney argues that there is no need to turn over the requested documents. The government recognizes and admits, he says, that the Chicago application was not prepared with the legally required representation from minority communities and the unemployed and underemployed. The application will not be approved and the plaintiffs should simply wait and see how the application is redone and see if they have further objections.

Chapman argues that the government is even now getting the Chicago OEDP approved "by the back door," getting after-the-fact approval from certain established civil rights organizations and even adding a few names to a committee that has already done its work, creating a plan that will put money designed for the oppressed communities to work in rebuilding the central city for the middle class.

The federal attorney admits to the judge that this back door approval process is going on and may be completed as early as October.

U.S. Judge Prentice Marshall, the judge who stopped federal money from coming into the city until police recruiting and promotion policies were brought in line with civil rights regulations, asks the federal attorney a question. "Can you agree today that the approval of the city's plan will not go forward until this suit is concluded?" The startled young attorney gulps. "I don't have that authority, your honor." Marshall then orders the government to turn over the documents the plaintiffs request.

Another small victory has been won. The plaintiffs and community organizations hope that the documents will prove that the government is conspiring with the city to get the illegally prepared economic masterplan approved. This would easily strengthen their case and perhaps make it possible to force the city to include representatives of the communities in the development of a new plan for the use of millions of dollars of federal monies.



## WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

The city's masterplan to eliminate poor people, driving them out neighborhood by neighborhood, rather than developing and finding employment for them, is being fought on many levels. At the same time, the most powerful business and political figures in the city are developing new strategies to implement their plans. The result of this struggle, being carried out in nearly every big city in the country, may well determine the future of this country's policy toward poor people and probably the future of this country itself. For if the Black, Latino and poor White populations now concentrated in the cities are dispersed in powerless pockets of poverty, it will be a long time before they will again have the voice to challenge the economic and social injustice which makes this country a heaven for a few, and a hell for the many.

KEEP STRONG begins in this issue an extended series on the masterplan and the fight against it in Chicago in the hope that lessons learned here in the city called the "hogbutcher of the world" can be applied elsewhere. Part I of the series explains the development of the masterplan in the sixties and its new forms and strategies in the seventies.

### PART I "1966 to 1977"

There has always been a masterplan for Chicago, probably since the 1770's when a Black pioneer, Jean Baptiste DuSable, established the first permanent settlement—a trading post along the Chicago River. In 1803, the trading post was uprooted and replaced with Fort Dearborn to provide a military base for the White settlers so they could protect the land they had conquered from the Indian peoples. Settle, uproot, and redevelop—these are the basics of any masterplan.

The 1966 Comprehensive Plan of Chicago is a 117-page document issued officially by the city's Department of Development and Planning in 1966. Although DDP released the report, several city agencies played a major role in preparing it: CHA, the Board of Education, Public Works, the Board of Health, Chicago Police Department, just to name a few. While officials in the department claim that the plan was reviewed with community groups throughout the city at "informal" hearings, the plan was never brought before the city council for approval or ratification. Nevertheless, it sets down the basic guidelines which the city of Chicago has followed in its plans for jobs, housing, health, recreational and educational facilities.

### HISTORY OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The first formal masterplan for Chicago was the Burnham Plan of 1909. Daniel Burnham, an

architect and planner, had been hired by the Merchant's Club (a club of socially prominent Chicago businessmen) in 1906 to come up with a plan to direct Chicago's development and growth after the Great Fire of 1871. This was also a period when large numbers of immigrants were arriving in the city, many from European countries where economic depression and political unrest had led to the growth of socialist ideas—many of which accompanied the workers to America. Chicago had already gone through the Haymarket Uprising, and the city's business elite was concerned about where in the city these people were going to live.

The Burnham Plan proposed that the downtown area be preserved for carrying on the major financial and political tasks of the city, and specifically mentioned the building of the Civic Center. The Lakefront was to be preserved as beaches and parks, with housing for the well-to-do built nearby. This is the fashionable Gold Coast, now commonly referred to as the Lake Shore. A major east-west highway was also recommended to bring people and goods into the central business district now known as the Loop.

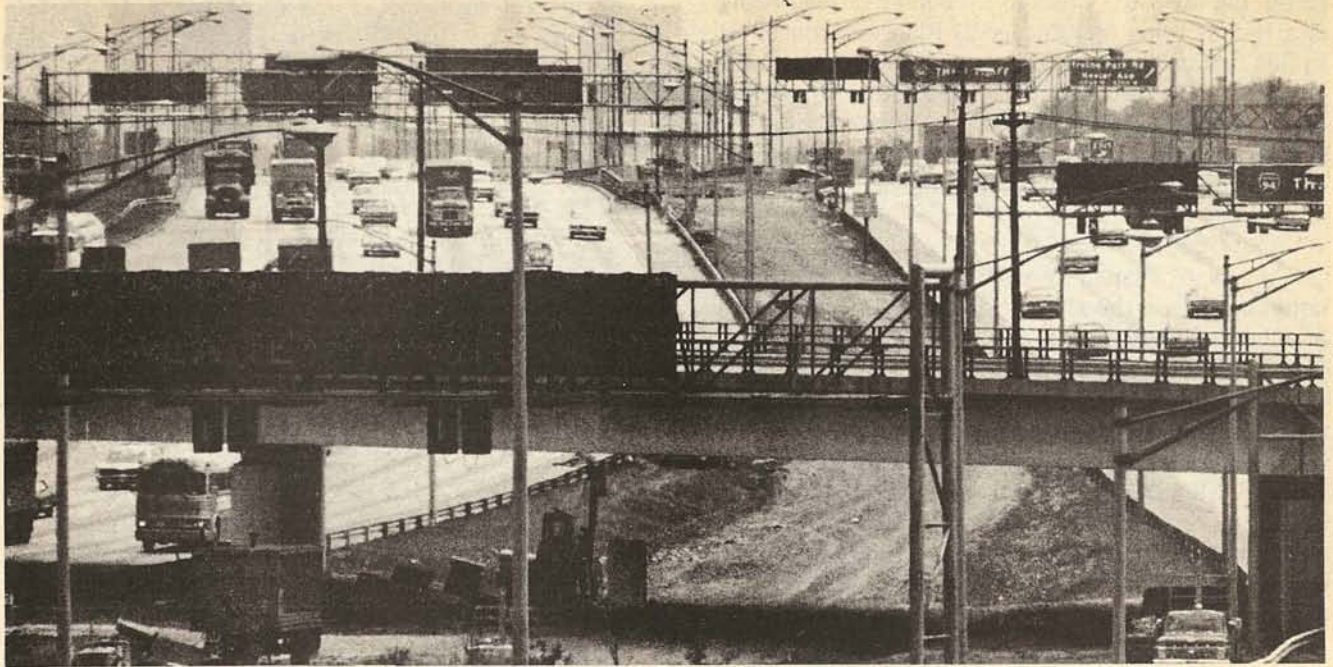
During World War II and into the 1950's, social and economic conditions forced large numbers of Black, Mexican, Puerto Rican and poor White people into the city. Mechanization in the south and in the coal mines in Appalachia sent thousands of families to Chicago looking for work. 1949 marked the beginning of mass migration from Puerto Rico to Chicago due to Operation Bootstrap (a systematic program of foreign investment and exploitation), and similar economic conditions in Mexico led to mass migration from there in the 1960's.

Meanwhile, the Depression and the War had resulted in a large number of government programs like FHA which made money available to families



During World War II and into the 1950's and 1960's social and economic conditions forced large numbers of Black, Mexican, Puerto Rican and poor White people into the city. Many of them came to neighborhoods like Uptown.





Superhighways, financed by the Federal Highway Administration, insured that these middle class families could still get back into the city to work, shop at Sears and Fields and bank at First National.

already living in the city to build or buy their own home—out in the suburbs. Thus, in the 1950's thousands of White, middle income families, reacting to the growing Black population, fled the city to the communities such as Oak Park, Evanston, Skokie, etc. Superhighways, financed by the Federal Highway Administration, assured that these families could still get back into the city to work, shop at Sears and Fields, and bank at First National.

By the late 1950's and 1960's Chicago's leading business (in the Loop) had declined, and in some ways the Loop had become a major cultural center for Black families living on the West Side. They saw the Black population of Chicago growing on the South, near West and West sides and decided that something had to be done to keep the Loop and surrounding communities "viable" and "attractive. Steps had to be taken to keep control of the central city where Standard Oil, Commonwealth Edison and First National Bank did its business.

A coalition of young "organization men" who had come to the helm of Chicago's business and utilities, formed a strong coalition with Mayor Daley when he took office in 1955. Working closely with the city agencies they charted a plan for Chicago. The 1966 Comprehensive Plan, Chicago 21 and OEDP are the successors to their early, behind-the-doors meetings.

### THE 1966 PLAN

The 1966 Plan divided the city into 16 development areas, and in 1968, the city issued separate area reports for 15. The missing report, the plan for the central area, was issued in 1973 under the name of

### Chicago 21.

Among the goals spelled out in the Comprehensive Plan are the need for economic development, jobs, improved environment and family life, opportunities for the disadvantaged. The underlying philosophy of the plan, and each of the mini-plans, was to make the "city more attractive to middle-income families with growing children." The endless discussions in the reports about creating jobs, schools, industrial parks, recreational facilities and housing is intended for the middle class—white collar workers, business and professional people.

The Development Area Reports (available from the city's Department of Development and Planning in room 1000 of city hall) all follow the same general outline—an introduction, discussion of existing conditions and recommendations, description of who lives there and the general plans for housing, recreation, health, business, industry, public safety, etc. Much of the destruction we have seen and continue to see in our communities was spelled out in these development reports more than 10 years ago. Projects like Truman College in Uptown, the plan for regional shopping centers, the conversion of Cabrini Green into middle-income housing can all be traced to these reports. These so-called "planning activities" which translate into the loss of housing and jobs for poor people, paraded all through the 1960's under the names of "urban renewal," and into the 1970's under the guise of "community development."

The frequent mention in the Comprehensive Plan of the Central Business District and South Loop as



being the key to Chicago's economic well-being clearly shows that the Chicago 21 Plan was conceived in this first masterplan. Despite all the claims by the city and the private business leaders like Abboud and Ayers that the 21 Plan is a plan of private capital—it is clearly a public plan. It was the 16th development area mentioned, but not detailed in the Comprehensive Plan.

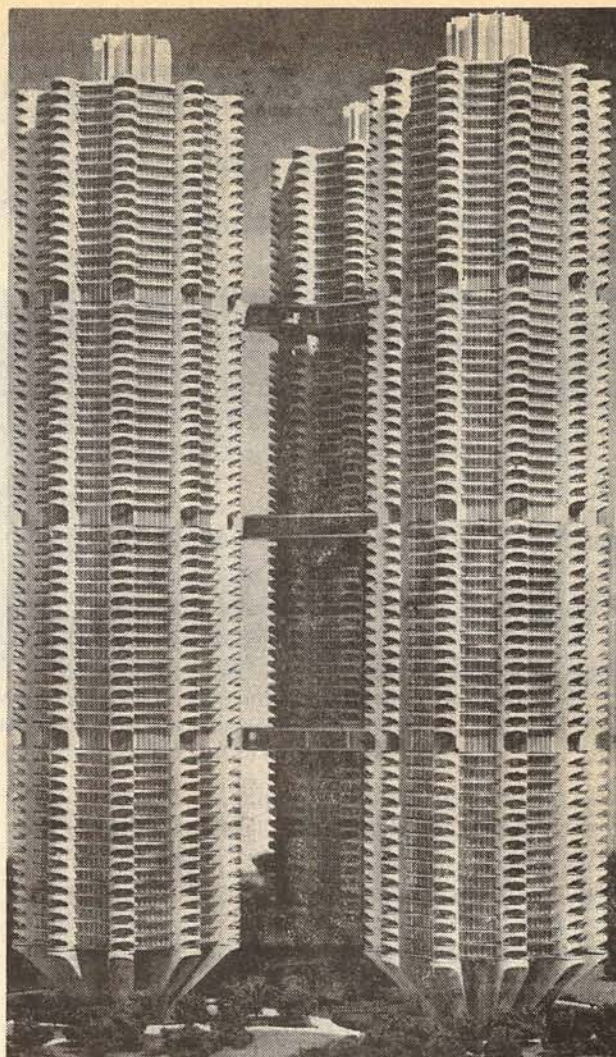
The 1966 Plan refers to building residential communities on the Ogden Slip, north of the Loop and in the South Loop. The city must emphasize "new moderate income housing to meet the needs of young families," states the plan. So, today in 1977, we have witnessed the destruction and uprooting of the near north community for developments such as Project Mohawk and the commitment of \$150 million to develop Dearborn Park. Two other South Loop projects—River City and Dearborn Green, will provide middle-income housing and will soon be approved by the city.

On the crucial issue of jobs, the 1966 Plan calls for programs to assure a supply of skilled employees and expanded job opportunities in non-manufacturing activities such as services and finance. Neighborhood business districts, regional shopping centers and industrial parks are suggested for each of the 15 areas as a way to make the city more attractive to business and the middle-income families.

## 21 PLAN

The Chicago 21 Plan, issued in 1973 by the Central Area Committee, and the city's release of the development report entitled South Loop New Town implements phase II of the 1966 Plan. We officially now have a plan for the revitalization or fortification of the Loop and the nearby communities of Pilsen, Westtown, Humboldt Park, Chinatown, Near North. The 21 Plan, when totally reviewed, is a \$15 billion, 30-year plan to bring Chicago into the 21st Century. Public and Private funds are to be committed to rehabilitate housing, revitalize State Street (by closing it off at Wacker and Congress to make a mall) and construct the South Loop New Town by 1985 on 650 acres of unused, vacant railroad land south of the Loop. The new town should provide housing for 120,000 persons. What the plan didn't say is that rents start at \$450. The 21 Plan was the silent contract made between the city and the corporations that if they were to stay in Chicago, then they had to be protected by a community of middle and upper-income residents to support "the prestige center."

As Black people will not constitute the majority of the middle and upper-income population in Chicago, that buffer community along the River and downtown will have to be White. The 21 Plan is the program to whiten the inner city, secure the city for



River City will provide middle-income housing and will soon be approved by the city.

Standard Oil, Commonwealth Edison, People's Gas and ensure that Black, Latino and poor people do not become a political majority in downtown Chicago.

## OEDP

Both the Comprehensive Plan and the 21 Plan call on the city, private developers and business to engage in projects which will keep the tax base in the city and encourage business and industry to stay. In the last 10 years many firms such as International Harvester have left the city for the south or suburban locations—where land and taxes are cheaper, where there is "less crime and vandalism."

To carry out its program of economic development the city of Chicago began in the late 1960's to develop a strategy for getting federal funds to create jobs and projects which would benefit the business community and local politicians. The Mayor's Committee on Economic and Cultural Development, followed by the Mayor's Council on Manpower and Economic Advisors, emerged as two





**"Much of the destruction we have seen and continue to see in our communities was spelled out in these development reports more than 10 years ago. Projects like Truman College in Uptown which destroyed more than 1200 units of low-income housing can be traced to these reports."**

of the most powerful committees to work with Daley. During the late '60's and 1970's these two groups hustled federal funds from the U.S. Dept. of Labor and the U.S. Dept. of Commerce to carry out "economic development." What it amounted to was that Mayor Daley's neighborhood, the Back-of-the-Yards, received funds for some revitalization projects; loans were made to some businesses, and funds were used to build shopping malls in Englewood and at 51st and State, fortified with electronic surveillance equipment.

Now, in 1977, the city has requested designation of the entire city as redevelopment which would make it eligible for funds under the U.S. Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965. At stake is potentially \$259 million in funds from the U.S. Dept. of Commerce for business loan, on-the-job training, plant construction and jobs for the hard core unemployed and underemployed.

The OEDP (Overall Economic Development Plan) submitted by the city in November 1976 is really an update of the 1966 Comprehensive Plan. The 108 projects listed in the OEDP are located in those same 15 development areas spelled out in the 1966 Plan. In addition, portions of the Chicago Plan are listed in the OEDP priority projects. For example, plans for regional shopping centers in Uptown, Rogers Park and Albany Park, recommended in the 1966 Plan, rejected by community opposition in the 1970's, reappeared in the OEDP. The Near North Urban Renewal Plan, is another phase for the Near North Development Plan already being carried out in the Cabrini Green area. Uptown Urban Renewal Area, Pilsen Commercial Conservation, Albany Park/Lawrence Ave. Commercial Conservation are new

names for the old plan.

The OEDP, required to state the impact of these projects on the existing community, often states nothing. One kind of impact is clear: without guarantees that jobs and housing which result from these projects will go to existing residents, the plans are part of the conspiracy to move the poor further out from the city. The 1966 Plan, Chicago 21 and OEDP are plans to make the city attractive to the middle-income families and corporations whose philosophy is that they cannot afford to train or hire those without skills. Those of us who are "unemployable," which means anyone without a high school or college degree, or union card do not fit into the schemes of these plans. We do not fit into their vision of the 21st Century.

Almost a year ago the city began to rewrite and update the 1966 Plan. In fact, the new plan was supposed to be released before December 1976, but the city has used the mayor's death and the need to "re-organize," as an excuse for why it hasn't come out.

Reliable sources, however, have seen glimpses of the plan and note that there is a new section entitled, "Security." The city, both through DDP and the Economic Development Commission, is heavily involved in figuring out ways to secure through natural or electronic surveillance, factories, shopping areas, residential developments, etc.

In Part II of this series we will look more closely at who are the men who have charted Chicago in these directions—the men who are behind the 1966 Plan, the Chicago 21 and the OEDP. □



# THE BLACK PANTHER

INTERCOMMUNAL NEWS SERVICE

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25¢



The Intercommunal Survival Committee, responsible for **KEEP STRONG**, has been selling **THE BLACK PANTHER**, primarily to White people, for over 7 years now. Thousands are sold on the street, thousands more are delivered regularly to home subscribers. Articles from **THE BLACK PANTHER** are also frequently reprinted in **KEEP STRONG**. The many regular readers among poor and progressive Whites is testimony to the relevance of this fine weekly paper to all oppressed people.

Of all the many contradictions and confusions that divide poor and oppressed people, racism is probably the most vicious and most destructive to unity and power. So much of the society we live in is shaped by the way it oppresses Black and Third World people, that to understand our own situation as Whites, it is necessary also to understand the situation of Black people.

The Intercommunal Survival Committee also believes that the concrete example of the Black Panther Party, the methods of successful struggle, the implementation of many survival programs serving the community, are models from which we can learn in defending ourselves, our families and our communities from those who would use and abuse us for their own profit.

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# **“TAKING CHARGE OF OUR LIVES”**

For years, most of our contact with the handicapped has been through the Jerry Lewis telethon or a Goodwill Industries box in a shopping center parking lot. While America's big corporations and advertising companies push the perfect man, woman and child image, the disabled have been locked away in human warehouses, considered eye sores, something to laugh at or something weird. Times are changing, however. The disabled, like anybody else, want to be treated as human beings, and be able to participate as fully as possible. Like other poor and oppressed people, they feel this country has too much not to include all people in a decent way of life.

There is a growing movement of disabled people who are actively working to change the many barriers that stand in their way.

One out of every 20 Americans is severely handicapped — either blind, deaf or severely crippled. One of the most significant organizations that has pioneered the effort of change for the disabled is the Center for Independent Living (CIL) located in Berkeley, California. CIL was begun by the disabled and is run by and for the disabled. Through some 25 programs, CIL deals with the day-to-day needs of disabled people. Their spacious office is bustling with activity, part of serving some 3,000 people a month. Disabled people from around the country have moved to Berkeley because of the opportunity CIL gives to be independent.

CIL began in 1972, growing out of a disabled students program at the University of California at Berkeley. It started with a nine person staff, five of whom were disabled and lived in a two bedroom apartment. They now have a staff of 86 full time volunteers and occupy an office in a former automobile showroom. Future plans include building their own facility.

What difference can CIL and their programs make? Suzie Zanda, 26, was paralyzed from the neck down after breaking her neck playing tug-of-war when she was 17. A freak accident changed her life. At 19 she went into a nursing home for the next four years. “There I was surrounded by people who were dying. I couldn’t even brush my teeth by myself, they wouldn’t let me,” says Suzie. “Institutions are a sick business. They get a lot of money for taking care of people.” She heard about CIL while living in Colorado and later moved out to Berkeley. “I wouldn’t live anywhere else now,” she explains. “The support services of CIL have let me take charge of my life.”

As a direct result of CIL’s work, Berkeley is the first city in the nation over 100,000 people that is accessible to a large extent for the people with disabilities. CIL has gotten “curb cuts” (sloped curbs) on most streets; stores and public services are also more accessible. Currently, CIL has a lawsuit pending against AC Transit Co. for buying 66 new buses that have no provisions for carrying disabled people. “Without an accessible community, I’m confined at home. Six stairs can make dinner at a restaurant a difficult thing. I don’t need it,” Suzie explains.

Guy Guber, 27, works with CIL’s paralegal program. In explaining the value of CIL’s programs he said, “They’re important because they generally enable people with disabilities to live on their own — uninstitutionalized and independently — to the maximum of their ability.

“Support services that are offered are essential to disabled people: teaching independent living skills like cooking, how to manage money, dressing themselves when they can, how to feed themselves as much as possible and attendant referral, which enables people who need attendance to survive



outside of an institution. SSI advocacy helps individuals receiving supplemental security benefits who get screwed. Paralegal services educate people with disabilities that they do have rights around employment; that it is illegal for them to be refused employment if they're qualified to do the job, purely on the basis of being handicapped. Our services are a tool to educate the people that they do have rights, to direct them to what mechanisms are available and to help them in the use of those mechanisms to achieve their goals."

Other services sponsored by CIL include: peer counseling; health maintenance; outreach counselors; housing department; services for the blind; transportation service; wheelchair repair shop; automotive and machine shop; community affairs department; communications department which publishes quarterly, *The Independent*; computer

training project; on-the-job training; and opportunities for the disabled to get M.A. and B.A. degrees. CIL also works with landlords, police and fire departments and rehabilitation counselors, among others, to improve their understanding of the particular problems and barriers that people with disabilities have.

As a result of discrimination and inaccessibility, unemployment is particularly high among people with disabilities. Forty-two percent of disabled people between 16 and 64 years old are unemployed. Another factor is that it's expensive to be disabled. Considering current levels of benefits (SSI, medical cards, money for attendant service) many people would have to have jobs with \$16,000-\$18,000 salaries. If one does get a job, but then gets laid off one or two years later, it is very hard to receive benefits because you've "proven" your ability to



There is a growing movement of disabled people who are actively working to change the many barriers that stand in their way. One of the most significant organizations that has pioneered the effort of change for the disabled is the Center for Independent Living. CIL (above), through some 25 programs, deals with the day-to-day needs of disabled people.





Deaf-mute uses sign language to communicate at recent H.E.W. hearing. The takeover of the federal building was an incredibly strong, powerful and beautiful thing. "For a lot of people it's the first time we ever won anything. We showed we are strong, even though we can't walk or talk, see or hear. Coming together with that strength is essential for a group of people who have been historically excluded, dehumanized, depersonalized and desexualized."

work. Many disabled people, knowing how hard it is to find jobs for themselves, don't want to take the risk of getting something now to be left holding the bag later.

Why is it important that CIL is run by people with disabilities? Guy, who is legally blind, explained, "I think there is a more accepting, supportive attitude at CIL. There is an emotional perception that there just can't be among other people who aren't disabled.

"Also, people act as role models. People here are dealing with the Department of Labor, the Office of Civil Rights, HEW and the University of California, among others. And, in many cases, they are doing it successfully. For someone who is newly disabled or just arrived here, the fact of seeing CIL run by people who are successfully working and living on their own as much as possible — that's real important.

"We have people from CIL who go down one or two days a week to public schools that are for orthopedically handicapped children. The services that individual provides are not particularly in terms of helping with academic achievement. Just the fact that here is someone 30 years old who can't walk, is deaf too, or is blind too, and has a job, has a motorized wheelchair, which means they don't need someone else pushing them around and lives in their

own house — the value of that can't be measured."

Suzie adds, "I'm the one that's got to know every crack in the sidewalk or my tire falls in. Who else can know that?"

CIL's reputation has spread nationwide. Groups and people have sent in requests for more information in hopes of establishing similar programs. CIL is assembling a handbook that the federal government will use to assist other areas of the country. CIL has done much to develop the disabled movement. They participated in the takeover of San Francisco's HEW office last month.

"I think that CIL and the disabled movement provides an enormous amount of strength to disabled people. My involvement in the sit-in at HEW is something of which I am enormously proud. The whole takeover of the federal building was just an incredibly strong, powerful and beautiful thing to me," states Guy. "For a lot of people it's the first time we ever won anything. The first time we haven't been excluded. We showed we are strong even though we can't walk or talk, see or hear. Coming in touch with that strength is essential for a group of people who have been historically excluded, dehumanized, depersonalized and desexualized, like any minority." □



## NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

### Bay Area Kicks Off Anti-Bakke Decision Drive

(Oakland, Calif.) Intensive organizing for the upcoming National Day of Protest Against the Bakke Decision was kicked off last month at a well-attended meeting in which elected officials and representatives from labor, churches, the academic community and grassroots community organizations pledged to work to bring out 10,000 people on October 8.

The call for a National Day of Protest has been issued by the Black American Law Students Association (BALSA), the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision (NCOBD) and the People's Alliance. At least 10 separate demonstrations in various cities across the U.S. are planned with the focal point being the Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., which will convene on that day.

The protest will draw nationwide attention to the dangerous implications of the Bakke decision, in which the California Supreme Court ruled that special admissions programs for minorities are "reverse discrimination."

The case arose when a 36-year-old White engineer,

Alan Bakke, contended that he was unfairly denied entrance to the University of California (U.C.) Davis Medical School, while minority students with allegedly less qualifications were admitted through a special admissions program.

Community and minority leaders quickly point out that the primary reason that the state court ruled in favor of Bakke is due to the fact that U.C. refused to admit past practices of blatant discrimination against minorities. In fact, Bakke filed suit on the advice of a U.C. admissions counselor.

If the decision is allowed to stand, special admissions programs throughout the country would be in serious jeopardy. In addition, the Bakke ruling could also affect affirmative action employment programs for minorities and women.

The National Day of Protest to Overturn the Bakke Decision on October 8 will be preceded by a National Day of Student Protest on October 3 to organize Black and minority students to be in the forefront of the fight to overturn the decision.

The anti-Bakke coalition enjoys the support of numerous local and state officials.

Working committees have been formed and they have started the task of drawing at least 10,000 people for the October 8 protest — primarily from the poor and oppressed communities of the Bay Area. Nationally known speakers and top-flight entertainment is being arranged for that day to insure that the demonstration will be successful. For more information on this important event, contact the NCOBD office, 2700 Bancroft Way in Berkeley. 549-3297. □

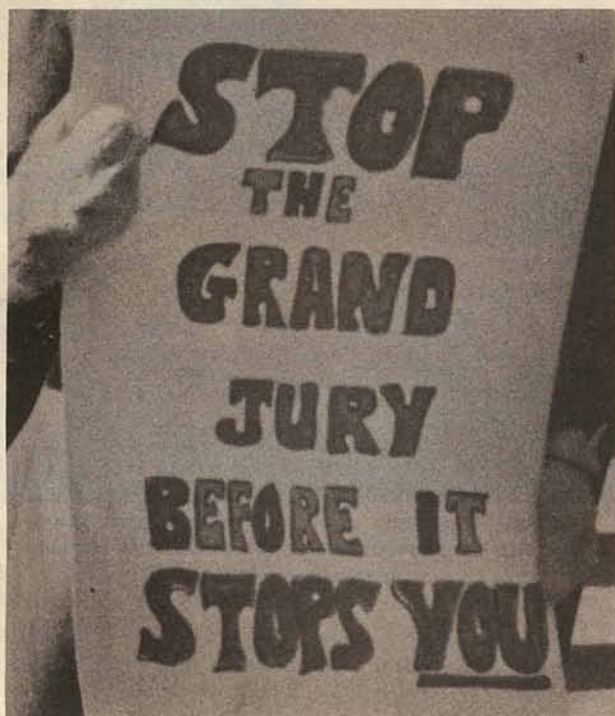


The anti-Bakke Coalition enjoys the support of numerous local and state officials; representatives from labor, churches, the academic community and grassroots community organizations.



# National Campaign Called To Stop The Grand Jury

(Chicago, Ill.) As the independence of Puerto Rico was brought before the United Nations late last month, grand juries, convened for the purpose of investigating the Puerto Rican Independence movement in this country, took on steam as six Puerto Rican activists in New York and Chicago were ruled



These grand juries have been set up as a witch hunt to harass and intimidate the Puerto Rican community.

in contempt of the grand juries and jailed within a five day period.

Julio, Luis and Andres Rosado in New York, and Roberto Caldero and Jose Lopez in Chicago, have refused to cooperate with the grand jury and provide them with their voice prints, fingerprints and mug shots which the juries have subpoenaed, in spite of the fact that the three brothers in New York face up to two years in jail (the life of that grand jury) and those in Chicago could remain in jail as long as five months.

These grand juries, they charge, have been set up as a witch hunt to harass and intimidate the Puerto Rican community. Under the guise of investigating recent bombings claimed by the FALN, they are instead using this opportunity to attack Puerto Ricans who are doing concrete day-to-day work in the Puerto Rican community, they claim.

National demonstrations are being called in September to begin a national campaign to stop the grand jury. These demonstrations are being planned in the Chicano-Mexican communities as well, where similar harassment by grand juries has been escalating. In Chicago a demonstration is being planned for September 17 in front of the Metropolitan Correctional Center where Caldero and Lopez are being held. The demonstration's demands are: Stop the Grand Jury, Halt Repression Against the Puerto Rican and Chicano-Mexican communities; and Free Maria, Raiza, Pedro Archuleta, Julio Rosado, Luis Rosado, Andres Rosado, Roberto Caldero and Jose Lopez. □

## Anti-Nuclear Demonstrations Held Nationwide

(San Luis Obispo, Calif.) Over 1,200 opponents of nuclear power gathered August 7 at the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant near San Luis Obispo, in an effort to stop the licensing of the plant by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Fifty-one of the protestors were arrested after crossing onto the plant property and blocking a service road.

Organizers of the rally and sit-in contend that the Diablo Canyon plant does not meet adequate safety precautions and therefore, endangers the lives of thousands of people. They also believe that nuclear energy is neither economical or safe in any form. They called on the Carter administration to come up with an energy plan based on the needs of people rather than large corporations.

Construction on the twin-unit 2,000 megawatt reactor plant is nearly complete. From the start, the nuclear plant, owned by Pacific Gas and Electric (PG & E) has been at the center of a heated controversy.

When construction on the Diablo Canyon plant started in 1968, PG & E admitted they knew that it would be located just 45 miles away from the San Andreas earthquake fault, the largest known fault in the continental U.S., and dangerously near the Riconada fault, just 25 miles away.

Engineers, allegedly taking these considerations into account, designed the plant to "survive," a quake registering 6.75 on the Richter scale — the largest recorded earthquake in the U.S., the 1964 Alaskan quake hit 8.4 Richter.

In 1971, however, oil prospectors discovered the Hosgri fault, an underwater fault the runs a mere 2½



miles west of the Diablo Canyon plant. The U.S. Geological Survey, an arm of the Interior Department, after studying the fault, came to the conclusion the fault was capable of producing an earthquake with a force beyond what the plant was designed to withstand. The survey team also believed the fault was responsible for a 1927 quake that registered 7.25 on the Richter.

If the Diablo Canyon plant is ever destroyed or ruptured by the heaving of once solid ground, experts acknowledge that an colorless, odorless gas of radioactive particles would be released into the air that would contaminate everything in its path — poisoning the land, killing thousands of people and causing cancer in others. Some of the waste particles stay dangerously radioactive for 250,000 years.

In order for the Diablo Canyon plant to begin operation, it must be licensed by the NRC, an agency established in 1974 to regulate the use of nuclear power and protect the public's interest. A recent expose, however, revealed that the NRC, under pressure from PG & E, was trying to find a way to issue a permit in spite of obvious safety violations. Spokespersons for the anti-nuclear forces charge that the NRC is controlled by large corporations which have financial interests in nuclear energy. They claim the NRC is controlled by those it is supposed to be regulating.

The demonstrators gathered on a beach about a half mile from the main plant gates where they heard speakers and entertainment before the 51 occupiers moved onto the plant grounds. The featured speaker was Daniel Ellsberg, author of the The Pentagon Papers and noted anti-war activist. Ellsberg told the crowd, "What should Germans have done about the ovens? What should we do about the slow-burning ovens being built for us here? We will not go quietly into the death camps of this world."

Ellsberg blasted President Carter for failing to live up to his campaign promises. "Jimmy Carter says he wants to abolish nuclear arms, but then he says we need more nuclear armed subs, more warheads and the neutron bomb."

The sit-in and rally were part of nationwide actions taken by anti-nuclear forces in remembrance of the 32nd anniversary since the dropping of the bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. Demonstrations were also held in New Hampshire, Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Vermont, North Carolina, Tennessee and Florida. The Diablo Canyon protest was organized by the Abalone Alliance, a coalition of anti-nuclear and environmental groups. It is modeled after the Clamshell Alliance which gained prominence after 2,000 demonstrators were arrested in June for occupying a nuclear power plant construction site in



**Nuclear opponents vowed to take as many mass actions as needed to end the threat of nuclear disaster or accident.**

Seabrook, New Hampshire.

Several other actions were taken in California including: 900 people gathered at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station in San Diego on Saturday, August 6; 800 people marched and rallied in San Francisco also on Saturday; and several hundred marched and rallied through Oakland and Berkeley on Monday, August 8.

Nuclear opponents vowed to take as many mass actions as needed to end the threat of nuclear disaster or accident. Public hearings on granting a license for the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant are scheduled for October.

In a related event, the NRC plans to recommend against allowing PG & E to resume operation of its Humboldt Bay nuclear power plant because of earthquake hazards. The atomic plant, located near Eureka, California, was shut down a year ago for refueling and changes in its earthquake safety design.

After a review of seismic and geologic information, the staff concluded that it could not make a positive finding that the plant is safe. □



# INTERCOMMUNAL PERSPECTIVE

## American Indians To Document Genocide At U.N. Conference

(San Francisco, Calif.) A United Nations conference scheduled for September 20-23 in Geneva, Switzerland, will provide Native American peoples in the Western Hemisphere with an international forum to produce evidence of genocide, political repression, theft of land and resources and denial of human rights.

After a two and one-half year struggle, the U.N. has granted consultative on "NGO" (non-governmental organization) status to the International Indian Treaty Council.

Following the 11-week Wounded Knee protest in 1973, the International Indian Treaty Council (IITC) was founded in June, 1974, by 4,000 delegates from 97 nations (tribes) at the First International Treaty Conference held on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in South Dakota.

A Declaration of Continuing Independence" issues at this 1974 Conference affirmed:

"We recognize that there is only one color of Mankind in the world who are not represented in the United Nations; that is the indigenous Redman of the Western Hemisphere. We recognize this lack of representation in the United Nations comes from the genocidal policies of the colonial power of the United States."

With its newly-achieved "NGO" status the IITC is now on the same footing as the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the Irish Republican Army (IRA) and other liberation movements in the world.

At the upcoming U.N. Conference on American Indians, the IITC will be seeking international sanctions against "U.S. colonization and treaty-breaking." This event, reports the Treaty Council News, will mark the "first time in the history of the United Nations, (that) Indian people will be speaking about their own affairs, to the U.N., in the U.N."



A march held in support of the Rosebud-Wounded Knee takeover in the spring of 1973.

Roxanne Dunbar, a spokesperson for the San Francisco office of the IITC, commented that the scheduled appearance before the U.N. Conference will be "the first time that Indians in the whole hemisphere have seen their issues as common against the colonialist governments they live under... a chance to bring to the world community that the treatment of Indian people is not a policy of neglect but is part of a conscious policy of genocide."

At the conference the IITC will document that:

- In the United States, economic and social conditions (\$2,000 annual income and 70-90 per cent unemployment rate) of Indian people are the lowest of any sector — causing an infant mortality rate for Native Americans which is 31 per cent higher than the national average.

- Life expectancy for Indians is 47 years compared 70.8 years for the general population. Malnutrition-related diseases affect 75 per cent of all Indian people. Over 24 per cent of all Indian women have been sterilized.

- Native Americans are far more likely to be arrested and imprisoned, receive longer sentences and are less likely to receive parole than non-Indians.

At the Third International Indian Treaty Council held in June of this year, workshops were held on natural resources, genocide and colonialism, sovereignty and legal repression. All of these workshops presented position papers to the general body for further discussion before the Geneva conference.

Delegates were also elected to make presentations before the U.N. Conference, among them IITC spokesperson Russell Means and other Indian leaders, along with representatives from the Hunkpapa Treaty Council, Lakota Treaty Council of the Oglalas, Gaiienkeh, Six Nations Confederacy, Hopi Nation and the Navajo Nation.



"The issues of today...are survival issues for Indian people," states the Treaty Council News. "For a century, survival—bare survival—has been the foremost issue of Indian people under the United States policies of genocide.

"Indian peoples are now going beyond bare survival and are asserting sovereignty, strength and rights...The people see two roads available — nationhood or genocide. The people are choosing nationhood."□

*Reprinted from The Black Panther*

## **United U.N. Delegation Demands P.R. Self-Determination**

(New York, N.Y.) A broad spectrum of Puerto Rican nationalists testifying before the United Nations Committee on Decolonization last month, harshly condemned the United States for making the Caribbean island a virtual "colony."

Seventeen representatives of various Puerto Rican independence groups, united under the Puerto Rican Peace Council, all sharply criticized the current "commonwealth" status conferred on the island by the U.S. government as not giving the island's 3.1 million people their right to self-determination.

A Cuban-sponsored resolution to the U.N. General Assembly, which pro-independence forces

feel has a possibility of passing, will probably include the following points:

- Call for a reaffirmation of U.N. Resolution 1514's application to Puerto Rico. Resolution 1514, the 1960 U.N. Declaration for the Independence of Colonial Countries and Peoples, broadened the scope of U.N. action on colonialism to include "all territories that have not attained independence";

- Condemn U.S. plans to annex Puerto Rico;

- Call for an injunction against any further exploitation of Puerto Rico's natural resources by U.S. corporations;

- Ask for a U.N. investigating team to be sent to Puerto Rico; and

- Reinclude Puerto Rico on the U.N. list of self-governing territories from which it was removed in 1953.

In recent years, the progressive Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP) and the Puerto Rican Independence Party (PIP) have been in the forefront of the island's fight for self-determination.

However, this year's presentation before the Decolonization Committee marked the first time that 17 pro-independence parties and organizations had come together under the banner of the "Puerto Rican Peace Council."

The Puerto Rican Bar Association also submitted a decolonization proposal, as did the generally conservative Puerto Rican Americans for Democratic Action and several well known individuals associated with the leadership of both the pro-statehood New Progressive Party (NPP) and the pro-commonwealth status Popular Democratic Party (PDP).

Speakers associated with the PDP and NPP did not participate with the official sanction of their parties; it is significant that they are breaking with



Hundreds gather to protest U.S. policy in Puerto Rico.



the standing policy of their organizations. According to some observers, this will strengthen the independence movement since the participation of these groups will be an implicit request for U.N. intervention.

This has been the cause of great concern of embarrassment for the Carter administration since nearly every organized political force in Puerto Rico has now equated the island's present "commonwealth" status with colonialism. For many years the PDP and the NPP have previously denied that the U.N. had any jurisdiction over Puerto Rico's destiny. The recent united proposals before the U.N. have isolated the U.S.

Also, for the first time, a broad coalition of organizations will go before the committee as a united North American Puerto Rican "people's delegation."

The U.S., as it has done for the past several years, boycotted the Decolonization Committee talks. □

*Reprinted from The Black Panther*

## **The Freedom Of The Zimbabwean People Is Not Negotiable**

(Salisbury, Rhodesia) Since the ill-fated Geneva conference on Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) ended in failure in January of 1977, the Zimbabwean Patriotic Front has continually reaffirmed their position that the freedom of the people of Zimbabwe is not negotiable. They have recognized and pointed out that "the imperialists see these conferences as important diplomatic arenas where they would maneuver to cheat the forces of freedom and progress, genuine independence in Zimbabwe, led by the Patriotic Front, into accepting, legalizing, and guaranteeing the perpetuation of neocolonialism and imperialist exploitation of Zimbabwe. "It is clearly the point of view of the people of Zimbabwe that it is only through armed struggle that true independence and freedom will be achieved. It is this position that the Patriotic Front has put into practice in the last year, with increasing success on the battlefield making it clear to everyone that once victory is attained that they are determined to establish a truly free, democratic, socialist Zimbabwe.

The recent trip that the US and British representatives made to Africa to create the new Anglo-American peace plan for Southern Africa has been met with contempt by Zimbabwean freedom fighters as another attempt to prevent the people of Zimbabwe from gaining their true independence. The new peace plan calls for the partial disbanding of the Smith army, in addition to the disbanding of the people's army and an introduction into the country of troops from a third country in order to maintain peace. The plan also calls for Britain to take over political control of the country until elections on a one-man, one-vote principle are held. The third part of the plan calls for a massive development fund to be established by U.S. and British business interests. The futility of this whole plan is that Smith's government has rejected the plan, and the Patriotic Front has rejected even the idea of proposing a plan.

In addition, Ian Smith, in a recent election held by the nation's White minority, has retained his position as the nation's prime minister. According to Smith, he intends to set up a multi-racial government involving some moderate Black "leaders." The leaders he is referring to are the same leaders such as Sithole and Muzorewa who have been traitors to the Zimbabwean people. Meanwhile, the war goes on, with victory by the people on the battlefield drawing closer. □



Zimbabwean guerrillas in training for the liberation war against Rhodesia.



# TRINITY

The book, **TRINITY**, by Leon Uris, is a novel, a chronicle of the struggle for survival, for dignity and for independence by the Irish people from British imperial-minded rule. This struggle continues today. This is a comment on the book.

What gives Connor Larkin the courage to fight? Connor Larkin is the Irish son of tenant farmers, the blacksmith, the soldier in the Irish Republican Army fighting for Irish independence.

Is it the memory of his family and relatives, dead of starvation with green tongues from eating grass after the great Potato Famine? Is it the memory that the rich lords and admirers of the English Crown use the misfortune of the famine to clear the land of tenant farmers and change over to more profitable uses of the land? Is it the memory of immigration ships packed with starving Irish who mostly died of disease and starvation on the passage?

What gives Connor Larkin the courage to fight?

Is it the blind Daddo Friel whose stories and accounts of the valiant history of Irish suffering and struggle filled long nights of his childhood, and took the place of an education in schools where Irish history and language and culture could not be taught? Is it the memory of his father, Thomas Larkin, and his grandfather, Kilty Larkin, who were leaders in the tightly knit Irish poor farming communities; heroes in the fight for survival who understood that only through destruction of property and violence could the tyrant landlords be made to relent; men who were respected and loved until their last dying breath?

Is it the time that he as a young boy, and his friend Seamus, are discovered in a Protestant church, hiding; and are chased, stoned and beaten by a congregation that turns into a Protestant mob? Is it the first Protestant blood he sheds, defending his

friend Seamus from death with a rock crushing a Protestant's head? Is it watching from behind barricades the Protestant mob attacking, burning and looting, drawing in hand-to-hand combat in Derry beside his father bleeding wildly from the head, hurling stones and clubbing and being clubbed? Is it the funerals of dead Irish martyrs? Is it the slow understanding that lace shirt lords such as Lord Hubble have fostered and created the Protestant hatred for the Catholics to gain troops to fight the Irish move for independence?



Is it the meeting, still as a small boy, after the Protestant-Catholic riots, still bruised and cut, with the great Irish leader Parnell who explains that no one battle can win the war, that no strategy for one stage of the struggle is foolproof to provide victory, that step must be made after step, raising the concept of Irish independence to where it can never be submerged again, raising the consciousness and will to fight of the Irish oppressed people?





They will say that in Ireland that "there is no present or future — only the past, happening over and over again — now."

What gives Connor Larkin the courage to fight?

Is it watching his friend seek love and happiness through the binding nightmares of Irish tradition, only to see his new bride consumed in the flames of an unsafe burning factory, falling from the roof with thirty other women into the fires? Is it watching his friend become a drunk, taken in by the misery of Irish bar alcoholism with thousands of others until he ends in an insane asylum?

Is it the love and dignity and discipline of a fighting organization?

What will give us the courage to fight the masterplans, the trickery, the technology and the power of our own masters who draw us through the hell of the cities?

Some will say that Connor Larkin fought because it is tradition for the Irish to fight. They view each new year as a repeat of the last. They will say that in Ireland "there is no present or future—only the past, happening over and over again—now." They do not see that the world is changing always and has changed greatly. They do not see that old bondages have been broken, that "the just cause triumphs over the evil cause; the will to live in freedom triumphs over cruelty." They do not see that to let the oppressor take your life slowly, in pain and humiliation, is reactionary suicide; while to hold your life precious and give it only to advance the cause of justice is revolutionary suicide which gives one's own life meaning and fullness and benefits the many. □



"... Step must be made after step, raising the concept of Irish independence to where it can never be submerged again, raising the consciousness and will to fight of the Irish oppressed people."



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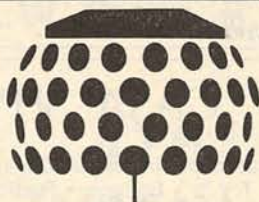
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# A PROGRAM FOR SURVIVAL

*"All these programs satisfy the deep needs of the community but they are not solutions to our problems. That is why we call them survival programs, meaning survival pending revolution."—Huey P. Newton*

## Each One Teach One Program

Founded on the concept that it is everyone's responsibility to teach our children the skills necessary to survive, this program concretely is designed to raise the reading skills of the neighborhood youth.

## Tenants Survival Union

Provides assistance and community support in landlord-tenant disputes. Building management and maintenance skills which exist in the community are put to use in order to improve neglected buildings.

## Legal Education & Defense Program

Offers counseling, advice and assistance in finding an attorney when necessary in any kind of legal, welfare or social security dispute.



Monthly Country Music Sunday at the Uptown People's Community Service Center

## Black Lung Association

Provides assistance to ex-coal miners and their widows in their struggle to get the benefits they are entitled to by law.

Mutual aid programs also exist to deal with basic food, transportation and medical needs to the more severely afflicted black lung victims.

## Intercommunal News Service

Provides news and information about the world and poor and oppressed communities through the distribution of *Keep Strong* magazine and *The Black Panther*.

## Food Cooperatives

Provides good quality foods at lower than supermarket prices through community participation and community co-operative buying.





ERICKA HUGGINS, ELAINE BROWN, HUEY P. NEWTON and the children of the Oakland Community School proudly receive a commendation from the California legislature.

## THE COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE FOR HUEY P. NEWTON AND THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY

Huey P. Newton, the Founder of the Black Panther Party, has returned voluntarily from exile to confront in open court the false charges and the murderous secret police attacks that forced him to leave the United States in 1974.

Spread the word to send funds and make checks payable now to *The Committee for Justice for Huey P. Newton and the Black Panther Party*, P.O. Box 297, Oakland, California 94604. (Or contact us at 8501 E. 14th Street, Oakland, California 94621, 415/638-0195.)

## THE COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE FOR HUEY P. NEWTON AND THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY

I want to help get Justice for Huey! Enclosed is my contribution toward Huey's bail and defense: ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ other \$\_\_\_\_\_

(state amount)

(Friends who contribute \$500 or more will receive a 14K gold "JUSTICE" pin.)

☐ I can also volunteer to help.

*Make all checks payable to:* The Committee for Justice for Huey P. Newton and the Black Panther Party 8501 E. 14th Street, Oakland, California 94621

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